



SAMUEL WARD COMPANY
STATIONERS
& BLANK BOOK
MANUFACTURERS
49 Franklin St.
BOSTON.

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Books upon
one side to be
lying on 3d p -

First-Annual Report
of Park Commissioners
of Hyde Park.

First Annual Report of Park Commissioners.

To the Citizens of New Park;

The most important act of your Commissioners was to ask for an appropriation of \$2000 for Park purposes, not because that would purchase any lot of land suitable for a Park but to test the present interest of the citizens in this permanent improvement. The voters by an overwhelming majority indorsed this recommendation and put themselves on record as in favor of public parks.

The Board decided that for the present it was unwise to expend anything for the improvement of Camp Meiggs Park at Readville thinking it better to keep the money so far as possible until a sufficient sum had been appropriated to purchase some one of the many desirable park locations in which our town abounds. But, as any local park will cost more than \$2000, and as your Commissioners have no right to purchase any land until the full purchase price has been appropriated, the Board recommend that the town in 1894 appropriate \$2000 for park purposes. By making small appropriations from year to year but little will be added to the tax rate. An emergency may arise when a small sum might be of great use.

Your commissioners examined with care ~~the~~ many desirable lo-

cations and ascertained in some instances the price at which land was held, but on mature reflection, it was unanimously decided to devote their attention this year to securing the aid of the Metropolitan Park Commissioners.

The town has several park sites of a Metropolitan character which will receive due attention in time, but two are so marked that the suggestion is sufficient to convince a non-resident even, of their great importance. A park-way along the banks of the Neponset, connecting the Blue Hill ~~Reservation~~ ^{reservations} and Stony Brook with the sea, from the artistic standpoint, almost appears to be a necessity, and Muddy Pond Woods, recently named Stony Brook Reservation, presents a wealth and variety of attractions, unequalled elsewhere in the vicinity of Boston. Your Commissioners learned that in order to accomplish anything definite they must concentrate their efforts and they were soon convinced that it would be a waste of energy to attempt to persuade the Metropolitan Park Commissioners to take any portion of the River banks ^{this year} from its mouth to ~~the~~ Paulsbridge, ~~the~~ Neponset will be dealt with, from a Metropolitan standpoint, at some time not very far distant, but not until the State grants a further appropriation and doubtless not until the Charles River problem has been solved. Your Commissioners therefore decided to use their best efforts to secure the taking of Stony Brook Reservation.

The State having appropriated \$1,000,000 for the use of the Metropolitan Park Commissioners, our town avoids the necessity of raising any money to pay for the Park taken by them, and have the same privileges as it would if purchased by the town, and as Boston has to pay fifty percent of the entire amount, and other towns benefited have to pay their share, the sum which Hyde Park will be called upon to pay at all is greatly lessened, and the payments are made in small instalments to the State, covering a period of forty years, and collected in the same manner as the State tax. The entire expenses of our Board, amounting to less than \$50, have been incurred in our efforts to promote the taking of this locality-- a wilderness preserved in the midst of cities and populous towns with grand rocks and ledges, ponds and streams, boating and skating, charming scenery and views, and a profusion of wild-flowers and shrubs. It gives us great pleasure to state that the Metropolitan Park Commissioners have voted to take this location for park purposes and it is altogether probable that before this report is in print the exact lines will be defined and the land actually condemned and taken.

While it would be simply impracticable to locate a park equally distant from each dwelling, Stony Brook Reservation is remarkably accessible. Should the boundary now being discussed be adopted, residents of Clarendon Hills, Hazelwood, East River

Street, Fairmount, the centre of the town and ~~Mount~~ Negonset would enter from West Street at the terminus of Gordon Avenue, or at Cleveland Street. Those from Readville and Sunnyside would reach it by Happy Valley, Glenwood Avenue and Cleveland Street. The advantage of situation to Sunnyside residents ^{will} ~~would~~ be partially made up to the citizens of Fairmount by the proximity of the Blue Hill Reservation, of nearly 4000 acres, already secured, and now being put in order.

W. H. Wadsworth
Chairman,

John J. Emsking
Wilbur H. Powers,
Secretary & Treas.



Records of the Park Commissioners
of Hyde Park.





Record of the Park Commissioners of Hyde Park.

Previous to the election of Park Commissioners the town in many ways evinced a strong interest in the subject but the first important step toward definite action was taken in 1892 when, at a regular town meeting, March 13, under an article in the warrant, a Committee was appointed consisting of John L. Enckling, George Edmondson, John D. McArthur and John W. Kachelder to "take into consideration the subject of Public Parks."

This Committee recommended the adoption, by the town, of the "park act" so-called. In accordance with this recommendation the act -

authorizing the election of
 Park Commissioners, was adopted by
 the Town of North Park on the 15th day
 of October, 1892.

See Town Records Vol II, page 9, Art. 7 -
 also page 10 -

The first Board of Park
 Commissioners elected consisted of
 John B. Bachelder, John J. Enneking
 and Hilbur C. Torrey.

1st meeting
 Mar. 8, 1893

On March 8, 1893 the first meeting
 of the Commissioners occurred at
 the residence of John B. Bachelder
 and, at that meeting, elected
 chairman and Hilbur C. Torrey was
 elected Secretary and Treasurer.

Many subjects relating to Park were
 discussed, special attention being
 given to desirable localities
 for parks in our town.

On motion it was voted to
ask the town for an appropriation
of \$200.00 for park purposes.
Adjourned subject to the call
of the chairman.
Wilbur H. Powers, Sec.

2nd Meeting
Mar. 30, 1893.

March 30, 1893, met at the
residence of John W. Bachelder,
called to order by the chairman
at 8 o'clock P.M. On motion of
Mr. Powers, voted that the chairman
be authorized to purchase a
record book.

A general discussion of maps
and means to secure parks in
the town followed.

At 10-10 o'clock adjourned subject
to the call of the chairman.
Wilbur H. Powers Sec.

22nd meeting

May 18, 73

May 8, 1873 met at the rooms
of the Harbinger Club, all members present.
Considered the question of appropriating
money for the development of a park
at Readville. Went to Readville
and attended a public meeting of
the citizens, called to consider the
question. Offered to present them
with a plan of the park made by a
competent landscape gardener,
but decided that the Commission-
ers would not appropriate any
money at present to develop the
park.

Wilbur H. Powers, Sec.

4th meeting
Sept. 28, 1893

The full Board met and spent the day in company with the Metropolitan Park Commissioners in examining and pointing out the advantages of Muddy Ford Woods for Park purposes. Also called the attention of the Metropolitan Park Commissioners to the location known as Pine Landing or Aunt Sally's Rock.

The beauties and advantages of the banks of the Muddy River for Park purposes were also laid before them.

Wilbur H. Powers, Sec.

5th meeting Sept. 21, 1893 met at 7-30 o'clock
 Sept. 30, 1893 P.M. at the house of the Secretary
 and Treasurer, 23 Childs St.

Approved N. G. Dickmore's bill
 of \$24.00 -

Noted that Mr. Fomeroy be instructed
 to confer with and inform the Metro-
 politan Park Commissioners of
 the fact that on viewing the Hyde Park
 Commissioners ascertained that
 several acres of land in Buddle Pond
 Woods can be purchased for \$50.00
 per acre and another lot of land
 at the assessed valuation.

It was decided by the Commissioners
 without any formal vote that it
 was especially desirable to urge the
 Metropolitan Park Commissioners
 to take Buddle Pond Woods and
 that in view of facts learned it
 was advisable to press upon them

any other proposed parks in
this town until the question of
taking Muddy Pond Woods had
been determined -

Wilbur H. Powers, Sec.

6th meeting
Nov. 21. 1893

The majority of the Commis-
sioners met at the studio of
John L. Enneking in Boston and
approved bills of the Hyde Park
Ice Cream Co. for luncheon for
the Metropolitan Park Commissioners
and guests and of R. Orson for same
used in warming Muddy Pond Woods.

Wilbur H. Powers, Sec.

4th meeting
Jan. 28. 94

Met at the house of the Secretary and Treasurer. Records of all previous meetings read and approved. General discussion followed. At six o'clock P.M. adjourned subject to the call of the chairman.

Wilbur H. Powers, Sec.

Jan. 30th
1894

Two of our Board J. B. Bachelder & John J. Enckling met the Metropolitan Park Commissioners, (as part of them, at 2 P.M., to discuss the boundary line of proposed Parks. I drove to Cor. of Austin & West - streets to impress them with that corner's advantages as an entrance to the Park. Near Mr. Romans estate had boundary line changed - also at Bell Lane street so as

to add beautiful bits of scenery -

Examined and discussed Park lines
until we reached the heights near
"Table rock" There, after enjoying
the fine view drove the visitors to
the depot - -

John J. Enckling -
acting Sec.

58
1894

Jan. 11 Met at the house of the chairman.
The following report was submitted by
the Secretary to the Board and on
motion it was voted that it be
adopted as the report of the Commission
to the town of Hyde Park ^{for the year} ending Jan. 31. 1894.

First Annual Report of Park Commissioners

To the Citizens of Hyde Park:

The first important act of your Commissioners was to ask for an appropriation of \$2,000.00 for Park purposes, not because that would purchase any lot of land suitable for a Park but to test the present interest of the citizens in this permanent improvement. The voters by an overwhelming majority endorsed this recommendation and put themselves on record as in favor of public parks.

The Board decided that for the present it was unwise to expend anything for the improvement of Camp Mills Park at Readville, thinking it better to keep the money as far as possible, until a sufficient sum had been appropriated to purchase some one of the many desirable park locations in which our town abounds. But, as any local park will cost more than \$2000. and, as your Commissioners have no right to purchase any land until the full purchase price has been appropriated, the Board recommended that the town in 1894 appropriate \$2000. for park purposes. By making small appropriations from year to year but little will be added to the tax rate, and an emergency may arise when a small sum might be of great use.

Our Commissioners examined with care many desirable locations, and ascertained in some instances the price at which land was held; but, upon mature reflection it was unanimously decided to devote their attention this year to securing the aid of the Metropolitan Park Commissioners.

The town has several park sites of a Metropolitan character which will receive due attention in time, but two are so marked that the suggestion is sufficient to convince a non-resident, even, of their great importance.

A park-way along the banks of the Neponset, connecting Blue Hill and Stony Brook Reservations with the sea, from the artistic standpoint, almost appears to be a necessity; and Muddy Pond Woods (recently named Stony Brook Reservation)

presents a wealth and variety of attractions unequalled elsewhere in the vicinity of Boston.

Your Commissioners decided that in order to accomplish anything definite they must concentrate their efforts, and they were soon convinced that it would be a waste of energy to attempt to persuade the Metropolitan Park Commissioners to take any portion of the River banks this year.

From its mouth to Paul's Bridge, the Arposset will be dealt with, from a Metropolitan standpoint, at some time not very far distant, but not until the State grants a further appropriation, and doubtless not until the Charles River problem has been solved.

Your Commissioners therefore decided to use their best efforts to secure the

taking of Stony Brook Reservation.

The State having appropriated one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for the use of the Metropolitan Park Commissioners, our town avoids the necessity of raising any money to pay for the Park taken by them, and yet it has the same privileges as it would if it were purchased by the town; and as Boston has to pay fifty per cent. of the entire amount, and other towns benefitted have to pay their share the sum which Hyde Park will be called upon to pay is greatly lessened; and the payments are made in small instalments to the State covering a period of forty years and collected in the same manner as the State tax.

The entire expense of our Board, amounting to less than \$50, have been incurred in our efforts

to promote the taking of this interesting locality - a wilderness preserved in the midst of cities and populous towns, with grand rocks and ledges, ponds and streams, boating and skating, charming scenery and views, and a profusion of wild flowers and shrubs.

It gives us great pleasure to state that the Metropolitan Park Commissioners have voted to take this location for park purposes and it is altogether probable that before this report is in print the exact lines will be defined and the land actually condemned and taken.

While it would be simply impracticable to locate a park equally distant from each dwelling, Stony Brook Reservation is remarkably accessible -

Should the boundary now being discussed be adopted, residents of Clarendon Hills, Hazelwood, East River Street, Fairmount, the center of the town and Mount Arconset would enter from West Street, at the terminus of Gordon Avenue, or at Cleveland Street. Those from Radville and Sunnyside would reach it by Hoofly Valley, Glenwood Avenue and Cleveland Street. The advantage of situation to Sunnyside residents will be largely made up to the citizens of Fairmount by the proximity of the Blue Hill Reservation, of nearly 4000 acres already secured and now being put in order.

John B. Bachelder, Chairman
 John J. Enneking
 Wilbur H. Powers
 Secretary and Treasurer.
 Wilbur H. Powers, Sec.

1894

65

April 2

The second Board of Park Commissioners for Hyde Park was the same as the previous year.

On April 2nd met at the house of Col. Bachelder and were called to order at 8-15 P. M.

John B. Bachelder was elected chairman. Wilbur H. Powers was elected Secretary and Treasurer. Approved bill of J. B. Bachelder for record book.

General discussion followed. Adjourned at 9-40 P. M.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec.

1874

June 25 Met at the house of the Secretary and Treasurer in the evening.

The chairman being absent Mr. En-
neking was elected chairman pro tem.

The Secretary offered the following
resolution, which was adopted.

Whereas, we were this day, at about
two o'clock P.M. informed by the
Secretary of the Metropolitan Park
Commission that unless we
assent to the taking of Stony
Brook Reservation as outlined
by it, and upon a plan never before
seen by any member of our Board,
so that such assent may be record-
ed at Dedham on the 27th inst.
that the taking by it in the town
of Hyde Park would become void
and of no effect and that the
money to be used therefor would
be applied to the purchase

of park land in another town, and
 Whereas it leaves us no time to
 appeal to the Metropolitan Board
 to have a conference and suggest
 needed change, — now therefore
 Resolved,

That we are of opinion that
 other land in our town ought to be
 added to Stony Brook Reservation
 and we protest against the method
 of giving us virtually one day
 only to consider this important
 question and no opportunity to
 consult with them and that, too,
 after a radical change was made
 in the lines originally proposed by
 the Metropolitan Park Commission.
 Resolved that we assent under
 protest rather than run the chance
 of losing the Metropolitan Park
 in our town.

On motion of the Secretary it was voted that we assent to the taking of Stony Brook Reservation as outlined by the Metropolitan Park Commission. The evening was spent in discussing the proposed plan of the Metropolitan Park Commissioners, and it was agreed that while the taking of the Reservation was an excellent thing for our town and the public at large, yet the unexpected changes in the plan by the Metropolitan Park Commissioners was in nearly every case a damage to the general plan.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec.

1894

69

June 26 Met at the office of the Secretary
209 Washington St. Boston, Mass.
at ten o'clock A. M.

In the absence of the chairman
Mr. Enneking, chairman pro tem.,
presided.

Mr. Enneking and Mr. Powers,
being a majority of the Board,
signed the formal assent prepared
and presented by the Metropolitan
Park Commissioner to our
Board, for the taking of Stony
Brook Reservation.

It was agreed without any formal
vote that Mr. Enneking should
present a protest against the
changes in the original plan and
that he should particularly urge
the Commissioner to take the
face and top of the ledge near
Mr. Komars.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec.

70 1894

Oct. 15 Met in the evening at the house of the Secretary, Mr. Eunking being absent.

Mr. Backelder and Mr. Toppers being a majority of the Board signed the formal assent prepared and presented by the Metropolitan Park Commissioners to our Board, for the taking of Stony Brook Reservation, according to the amended plan.

The principle change in the new plan is the taking of the face and top of the ledge near Mr. Korman's.

The other changes are mostly the straightening of lines.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec.

1894

71

Dec. 5

Met at the house of the Secretary.
Called to order at eight o'clock,
sharp.

Records of previous meetings
read and approved.

Thomas T. Robinson, Dr. Francis
L. Bateock and Erastus Worthing-
ton Jr., constituting the Board
of Park Commissioners for the town
of Dedham were present with us
and two hours were occupied in
examining plans and discussing
proposed additions to Stony Brook
Reservation.

It was the unanimous opinion
that we ought to act in harmony
and endeavor to agree upon a
definite plan looking to the
enlargement of Stony Brook
Reservation with the
special object in view of having

a boulevard from Dedham connecting with the proposed boulevard touching Hyde Park.

Mr. Enneking made an oral report of the protest presented by him to the Metropolitan Park Commissioners and stated that the change in the plan, made by them near Mr. Roman's was in substantial accord with his suggestions. Adjourned at 10-10 P.M.

Wilbur H. Powers,

Sec.

Addendum.

Mr. Enneking and Mr. Worthington were appointed, representing both boards, to examine and report the most feasible route for a parkway between the two towns, in furtherance of the plans proposed and discussed during the evening -

Dec. 7. 1894 Met at the house of the
chairman, - called to order at 7-30
P. M.

Charles J. Page of Boston presented
his views upon the subject of a
parkway connecting the Town of
Hyde Park with Franklin Park and
urged that the Board consider the
expediency of the Stony Brook route,
so-called. He called attention to
the drive way from Boston to
Brookline and thought it better
to have a good parkway rather
than large parks. In his opinion
the Stony Brook route would be
more economical and ben-
eficial to Hyde Park than any
of the other routes heretofore
suggested.

Mr. Enck reported that a
beautiful parkway could be
built between Dedham and

Leyde Park, along an inexpensive route.

Voted, that we request the Boston Park Commissioners to name a time and place for a meeting to consider the question of a Park way along Stony Brook from Franklin Park to connect with the Stony Brook Reservation and crossing West St. near Austin.

Adjourned at 10-15 P. M.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec.

Dec. 23, 1894

Having learned of the death of our
Chairman, Col. John B. Bachelder,
which occurred Saturday Dec. 22,
the remaining members of the Board
met at the house of the Secretary
at 3 o'clock P.M.

The following resolutions were
adopted.

Whereas, in God's appointed
time and in the fullness of years
Death has cut down our Chairman
and our friend, Col. John B.
Bachelder, therefore

Resolved, That in his death
our Commission lose a
wise and enthusiastic
member, our town an
upright, progressive citizen
who was our ready & plan
for its development and
improvement and our

Country a man of foresight and perseverance, grandly successful in his lifework, the perpetuating by picture, story and marble the historic memories of patriotism, valor and heroism at Gettysburg -

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be generally spread upon the records of our Commission printed in the local papers and sent to the widows of the deceased.

Wilbur H. Parvles,
Sec.

L.C. 28, 1894

Met at the house of the Secretary
at 7-30 P. M.

Records of the two previous
meetings read and approved.

John J. Enneking was elected
Chairman in place of Col. John
B. Bachelder, deceased.

Voted that the following commu-
nication be sent to the Board
of Selectmen:

Hyde Park, December 28, 1894.
To the Board of Selectmen of Hyde Park.

You are hereby notified that
a vacancy has occurred in the
Board of Park Commissioners
for the town of Hyde Park
by the death of Col. John B. Bach-
elder, a member of said Board
of Park Commissioners.

This notice is given in accord-
ance with Chapter 234

of the Acts and Resolves passed
by the General Court of Massachu-
setts in the year 1891 -

We are ready to join with
you in any notice or action
which your Board may deem
it necessary or wise to take in
the premises -

The Secretary reported that in
accordance with the vote of Dec. 17
he appeared before the Boston Park
Commission and requested that
a meeting of conference be held
to consider the matter of a parkway
connecting Franklin Park with
Stony Brook Reservation at Leyde
Park by a route along Stony Brook.
The Secretary also read a commu-
nication from the Boston Park
Commission stating that the
proposed meeting would be of but

little value at this time
 "as owing to a lack of funds
 the Board could not now
 consider the matter"

A plan of Camp Meigs Park
 was laid before the Board -
 and it was voted that we take
 no action in relation to the same.
 Adjourned at 8-45 P. M.

Wilbur H. Powers,
 Sec.

1895 Jan. 1.

Met at the house of the Secretary
 at 8-15 P. M. Records of the
 previous meeting read and
 approved - Spent the evening
 considering subject matter
 for the second Annual report.

Wilbur H. Powers,
 Sec.

Jan. 28

The Park Commissioners and the Selectmen met in joint session at the Selectmen's room at 8-10 o'clock P.M.

Amos W. Brainard was chosen to preside over the joint session and the clerk of the Board of Selectmen was chosen to act as Secretary.

A ballot was taken to elect a member of the Board of Park Commissioners to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Col. John B. Bachelder.

The whole number of votes cast was six, - necessary for choice, four.

Lanson B. Bidwell had six and was declared elected. Adjourned

Wilbur A. Pomeroy,
Sec.

1895 Feb 5

By appointment the Chairman J. J. Emmeking and L. B. Bidwell met Frank F. Crane and Geo. W. Morton on the Sumner Estate and looked over that portion which includes High Rock and the high land to the east. After some talk as to the increased value of the balance of the 64 acre lot if a portion was used as a park, Mr. Emmeking asked Mr. Crane to make us a proposition on 4-6-8-10 or 15 acres which would include the ledges. Mr. Crane suggested \$1000- per acre. Mr. Emmeking said he understood, he had asked but \$450- and mentioned the power of the Park Commission to condemn the land but did not wish to take that course. On the understanding that if an appropriation was made by the town, and an agreement reached, payment could be made promptly Mr. Crane agreed to withdraw the wood from sale and made us the offer of 25 acres, for \$2500- the offer to remain good until we could bring the matter before the town in the following month.

Lawson B. Bidwell,
acting Sec.

1895 Feb. 27

Met at the rooms of the Lansing
Club at 7-30 P.M. Records of all
previous meetings read and approved.
A general discussion followed but
no definite action was taken.

Adjourned

Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec

1890 Mar. 12 Met at the house of W. H. Powers,
23 Childs St. at six o'clock P. M.

The third Board of Park Commissioners of Hyde Park consisted of
John J. Enckling, Wilbur H. Powers
and Lawson B. Bidwell -

Organized by choosing John J. Enckling
Chairman and Wilbur H. Powers
Secretary.

A general discussion followed.

Adjourned -
Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec.

1890-

Mar. 16 Met at High Rock and walked over the land on which report is to be made to town, examined plan of same and made estimate of area of land desirable to secure for park purpose.

Wilbur H. Powers, Sec.

Mar. 19 Met at the office of the Real Estate and Building Company #82 Devonshire St., Boston.
 Showed plan of land near High Rock and talked over price of same -
 Requested said company to put an offer in writing and send same to the Board.

Adjourned at 9-10. A. M.

Wilbur H. Powers,
 Sec.

1896 Mar. 20

Met at the house of the Secretary at 7-30 P.M. Records of all previous meetings read and approved.

Voted that the chairman present the subject of High Rock in the Gazette in such manner as he deems wise.

Voted that the Commission recommend that the money to purchase the land in the vicinity of High Rock be raised by issuing thirty year bonds and providing for the payment thereof by a sinking fund.

Voted that Mr. Bidwell see the Executor of the Sumner Estate and invite him to be present at our next meeting.

Voted to adjourn to meet at same time and place Monday evening March 25.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec.

1895, Mar. 25 Met at the house of the Secretary
at 7-30 P. M.

Records of the previous meeting read
and approved -

Mr. Bidwell reported that he had seen
the representatives of the Sumner Estate
and urged them to reduce the price they
had set upon the land which we
desired to take. Mr. Crane and
Mr. Morton, representing the Sumner
Estate, came in and offered the
land laid out on our plan by
Hammett and amounting to about
thirty acres, for twenty thousand
dollars -

The Board very earnestly urged them
to make a further reduction, suggesting
that if they would reduce the price
to twelve thousand dollars the
town would be quite sure to
take the land for park purposes.
They promised to make us another

offer in writing by Wednesday
March 27.

The Chairman reported that he had again interviewed the representatives of the Real Estate and Building Company and on behalf of the Board had urged them to sell the town more land adjacent to the Summer Estate and to give all land necessary for a street.

Voted that Mr. Bidwell have charge of further presenting the subject to the Real Estate and Building Company.

Adjourned at 9-35 P. M.

Wilbur H. Powers,

Secy.

1895 Mar 28. Met at the studio of the Chairman in Boston at 4 o'clock P. M.

The Secretary reported that the agents of the Summer Estate had sent a written offer to take seven thousand dollars for the thirty acres of land laid out on the Park Commissioners' plan by Hammett Mr. Bidwell, who was unable to be present, sent the report that the Real Estate and Building Company had acceded to our request to let us have more land but that they would charge us one cent per foot for all land taken.

The Secretary read the following report which was adopted as the report of the Commissioners.

To the Citizens of Hyde Park:-
Your Park Commissioners deem it wise to ask you to appropriate

Twenty-one thousand dollars
 to purchase about thirty acres
 of the Summer Estate, including
 High Rock and also a piece of
 land adjoining, which belongs to
 the Real Estate and Building
 Company. The agents of the
 Summer Estate offer the thirty
 acres at seventeen thousand
 dollars and the Real Estate and
 Building Company offer the
 additional land at one cent
 per foot - In 1894 the thirty
 acres was assessed with other
 lands in the same Estate at
 five hundred dollars per acre,
 making a gross sum of fifteen
 thousand dollars for the Park which
 we propose to take. The land
 belonging to the Real Estate and
 Building Company is divided into
 lots but we think the average assessment

would be in excess of the price for which the Company offers to sell it to the town.

The proposed Park contains an excellent athletic field and playground, a fine natural spring of water, many places suitable for picnics or, in summer, to rest in the cool shade and presents many beautiful views.

He recommended that the money be raised by the issuing of bonds or notes of the town, payable in thirty, equal, annual instalments.

In our opinion, the purchase at the price stated will prove a good investment from every standpoint.

The Secretary also reported that he had prepared the following motion to be offered at the town meeting about to be held:—

Moved that the town at its annual election in 1896 elect three Park Commissioners, one for one year, one for two years and one for three years; And that thereafter at each annual election the town elect one Park Commissioner for the term of three years.

Voted that the Commission favor the adoption of the foregoing motion prepared by the Secretary.

Adjourned -

Wilbur H. Powers,
Secy.

1895.

April 3.

Met at the house of the Secretary at 7-30 P.M.

Voted that the Chairman confer with Mr. Light, our representative, and urge him to get the Metropolitan Commissioners' Bill amended if possible so as to give more authority to local Park Commissioners when Metropolitan Park lines are to be changed.

Voted that the Chairman confer with the Town Treasurer and request him to place the twenty-one thousand dollar Park loan, authorized by the recent Town meeting, in the market at an early date.

Voted that the Secretary be authorized to employ a proper person to look up the title of the land about to be taken for Park purposes.

Voted that Mr. Bidwell be
authorized to complete the
Survey of land of the Summer
Estate and of the Real Estate
and Building Company.

Adjourned at 9-15 P. M.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Secy.

1895-
April 15

Met at the office of the
Town Treasurer
Bids for the Park Loan for
twenty-one thousand dollars were
opened and the bid of R. L. Day
& Co. being the lowest in accordance
with the terms offered, was
accepted.

The bid gave a premium of
almost six hundred dollars upon
the bonds to be issued -

Adjourned.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Secy

1895-

June 14

Met at the house of the
Secretary at eight o'clock P. M.

Records of the previous meeting
read and approved.

The chairman reported that he
had conferred with Representative
Light and requested him to offer
an amendment to the act proposed
by the Park Commissioners and
presented to the present Legislature
giving authority to the local
Park Commissioners when it is
proposed to sell or surrender to
the original owners land already
taken for park purposes.

The Secretary reported that he had
prepared such an amendment in
accordance with the suggestions
of the Board, that the amendment
had been offered in the House,
adopted and had become a part
of the law.

The legislature, having passed a law - conditioned upon the acceptance by the town, relating to the lands to be used for the purchase of High Rock, it was voted that the Chairman be authorized to see the Chairman of the board of Selectmen about inserting a proper article in the warrant.

Voted that the Secretary be instructed to hand in to the town clerk the written report relating to High Rock which had been presented to the citizens of the town at a regular town meeting.

Voted to lay the Mexican letter on the table.

Adjourned at 7.35 P.M.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Secy.

1895-
Nov. 1

Met at the house of the
Secretary at 8-45 P.M.
Record of previous meeting
read and approved.

Bill of E. C. H. Hammett
approved.

General discussion followed.
Adjourned at 9-50 P.M.

Wilbur H. Payson,
Secy.

Dec. 31

Met at the house of the Secretary at
7-40 P.M. Record of previous meet-
ing read and approved.

Bill of Charles F. Jenney, Esq., for look-
ing up title, approved.

Voted that the Secretary formulate
the annual report of the Park Com-
missioner, to the town.

The entire subject of the annual re-
port was gone over in a general
manner -

At 7-30 P.M. adjourned
to Tuesday, Jan. 7, at same
place at 7-30 P.M.

1890
Jan. 7

Wilbur H. Powers, Secy.

Met at the house of the Secretary at
7-30 P.M. Records of previous meeting
read and approved.

The following report was submitted by
the Secretary to the Board and on motion
it was voted that it be adopted as the
report of the Commission, to the town of
Hyde Park for the year ending Jan. 31. 1890.

Report of Park Commissioners, Third Annual Report.

From the remarks and speeches made at
various times during the year we infer
that many citizens are in favor of small
local parks. If any land is secured for
such purpose at low rates, it will be
necessary, where opportunity offers,

to act promptly. With this in view,
we recommend the appropriation of
\$2000.00 in 1890 for park purposes.

2.

Our Commissioners deem it for the
best interests of the town to have one
commissioner elected each year for
a three years term, instead of three
commissioners each year, for a one
year term. Therefore we requested that
a proper article be inserted in the town
warrant. And we prepared and the
secretary offered under this article
the following motion: -

Moved, that the town at its
annual election in 1890, elect
three Park Commissioners, one for
one year, one for two years and one
for three years; and that thereafter
at each annual election the town elect
one Commissioner for the term of
three years.

This motion was adopted. We are of the opinion that this change in the term of office will tend to a conservative and continuous policy, which is much better than an uncertain and shifting one.

3.

A proposition was presented to the Legislature of 1895 to allow the Metropolitan Commissioners to abandon, recover or sell at public auction or otherwise, any park land, by consent of the Governor and Council. From our experience and observation, believing that local boards were, as a rule, better acquainted with the exact lines and boundaries of parks in their locality, than any Metropolitan Commission, and could therefore prevent undesirable changes in lines being made to suit the ends of owners on the borders of parks, we drafted and proposed an amendment that such abandonment or resale should be done

"with the concurrence of the Majority of the Board of Park Commissioners, if any, of the city or town in which the property is situated".

This amendment was offered by our representative in the House, and was adopted and is now a part of the law.

4.

Your Commission, in performance of its duties, requested the selectmen to insert the following article in the warrant for the town meeting to be held March 28, 1895: —

"To hear and act on a report of the Park Commissioners relating to land in the vicinity of High Rock, including a portion of the Summer Farm, and to see what sum of money the town will appropriate for park purposes, and to determine how the same shall be raised."

At that meeting the following report was read by the Secretary and placed on file with

the town records: -

To the Citizens of Hyde Park: -

Hyde Park Commissioners deem it wise to ask you to appropriate twenty-one thousand dollars to purchase about thirty acres of the Sumner Estate, including High Rock, and also a piece of land adjoining which belongs to the Real Estate and Building Company. The Agents of the Sumner Estate offer the thirty acres at seventeen thousand dollars, and the Real Estate & Building Co. offer the additional land at one cent per foot. In 1894 the thirty acres were assessed with other lands in the same Estate at five hundred dollars per acre, making a gross sum of fifteen thousand dollars for the Park which we propose to take.

The land belonging to the Real Estate & Building Co. is divided into lots, but we think the average assessment would be in excess of the price for

which the Company offers to sell it to the town.

The proposed park contains an excellent athletic field, and a play ground, a fine natural spring of water, many places suitable for picnics, or, in summer, to rest in the cool shade, and presents many beautiful views.

We recommend that the money be raised by the issuing of bonds or notes of the town, payable in thirty equal annual instalments.

In our opinion, to purchase at the price stated will prove a good investment from every standpoint.

It was then moved that the Treasurer be authorized to borrow \$21,000.00 to be used for purchasing land in the vicinity of High Rock for park purposes, and for improvements thereon, and to give the notes or bonds of the town therefor

said sum to be paid in thirty equal annual instalments, the first payment to become due in 1896.

This was adopted by a vote of 394 in the affirmative and 14 in the negative.

The Town Treasurer, in the usual way, solicited proposals for the bonds, these authorized, and the lowest bid was accepted. Some questioned the legality of the vote while others maintained that it was valid, and the money lender requested that its legality be put beyond question by an act of the Legislature. Certain citizens appeared before the Committee of the Legislature and opposed the enabling act; some on the ground that this small sum ought to be raised in ten years instead of thirty and others that we did not need the park, or that it was useless or expensive.

The Legislature passed the following act:—

Chap. 433.

An act to Authorize the Town of Hyde Park to incur indebtedness for Park purposes.

Be it enacted, etc, as follows:

Section I.

The town of Hyde Park for the purpose of purchasing land in the vicinity of High Rock for park purposes and for improvements thereon, may borrow twenty-one thousand dollars, and may issue bonds therefor payable in thirty equal annual instalments, the first instalment to become due upon the first day of May in the year eighteen hundred and ninety six. The bonds shall be dated the first day of May, eighteen hundred and ninety-six, shall bear interest at the rate of four per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually on the first days of November and May of each year, and shall be in denominations

of five hundred dollars and one hundred dollars each, but the provisions of chapter twenty-nine of the Public Statutes and acts in amendment thereof shall otherwise apply to such indebtedness.

Section 2.

The vote of the town of Hyde Park passed on the twenty-eighth day of March in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-five, authorizing the Treasurer of said town to borrow twenty-one thousand dollars for the park purposes mentioned in section one of this act is hereby confirmed and declared legal and valid.

Section 3.

This act shall take effect upon its acceptance by a majority vote of the voters of said town present and voting thereon at a legal town meeting called for the purpose within one year from its passage.

Approved May 29, 1895.

On June 26, 1895, a town meeting was held, article & reading as follows:—

"To see if the town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 433 of the Acts and Resolves of the General Court of the present year.

This is an act which will legalize the vote of this town, passed March 28, 1895 purposing to authorize the town treasurer to borrow \$21,000.00 for purpose of a park in the vicinity of High Rock provided the town votes by a majority vote at this meeting, to accept the provisions of said act.

If the town at this meeting refuse to accept said act, then said vote of the town passed last March remains unaffected by said act."

The vote was taken by a "yes and no ballot", 47 voting in the affirmative and 231

in the negative.

According to the opinion of able lawyers, this does not prevent the present commissioners or their successors from making a contract with the land owners to purchase the land, and then compel payment through the courts. It also permits the Treasurer to borrow the money at any rate of interest of anyone who will accept the loan without any enabling act.

Or, if brought before the town in due form, this act may be voted on at any time or many times between now and May 9, 1896.

Our present Board, regardless of their own opinion, refused to take any further action in the premises, believing that majority's rule, that it was fair to interpret this vote of June 26th as an instruction not to buy and that the citizens

should be the final judge of what they want.

It is, however, an undesirable situation, and we recommend that an article be inserted in the next town warrant, under which the town can either accept the enabling act before quoted, or can rescind the vote passed the 28th day of March 1895, so that the matter can be finally disposed of by the town.

5

As many changes must necessarily occur in the Radville District in the near future, it would seem advisable from the economical standpoint that the Park-way proposed between Stony Brook and Blue Hill Reservations be laid out and built next year.

But that is beyond the jurisdiction of this Board. It could, however,

be brought before the Legislature, on petition, if a sufficient number of citizens are interested.

The Metropolitan Board at present have no money with which to construct ways, and as some of the towns are urging their claims with much force and pertinacity, it is quite probable they will throw the burden of obtaining an appropriation from the Legislature, for any specific park way, upon the advocates of the measure.

One town at its own expense, is obtaining release and terms of sale from all land owners, to ascertain the probable cost of the proposed way.

If there is a predominant sentiment in Hyde Park in favor of this improvement, some method of expressing it might lead to good results.

In order to have a fair chance for success, any attempt in this direction must receive the hearty coöperation of our citizens.

The advantage of a Boulevard connecting these two reservations, can hardly be overestimated from any standpoint.

Let it cost our town no more to have this road built than it does to have the same sum expended by the Metropolitan Commission, in any other town in the Metropolitan District. We pay our proportion the same as for Metropolitan Parks.

With these suggestions, we leave the matter to the good common sense of our citizens.

John J. Enneking, Chairman
 Hubert H. Fowers, Secretary
 Lawdon B. Bidwell.

Park Commissioners for the town of Hyde Park.

The chairman presented a letter from Frank F. Crane agent for Samuel Crane, Executor of the Estate of Sally R. Sumner withdrawing the offer made the Park Commission in regard to land at Pine Garden, so-called, on the estate of the late Sally R. Sumner.

Voted that the Secretary acknowledge the receipt of the letter and inform him that the substance of the same had been spread upon our records.

Adjourned at 9-20 P. M.
 Wilbur H. Powers,
 Secy.

1896

March 10

Met at the house of Mr. Powers at 8 P.M.

The fourth Board of Park Commissioners of Hyde Park consisted of J. J. Emmet King Wilbur H. Powers and Lawson B. Bidwell.

Organized by choosing Wilbur H. Powers Chairman and Lawson B. Bidwell Secretary.

A general discussion followed.

By vote the Secretary was directed to request the Selectmen to insert in the warrant to see if the town will appropriate the sum of \$2000. for park purposes. and the Chairman was requested in case there was an article in the Warrant for the purchase of land near the Hyde Park Station of the N. Y. & H. & H. R. Road to ascertain the price asked for it.

Adjourned
L B Bidwell
Sec'y.

1896

July 1

Met at the house of the Chairman at 7.30 p.m.
 At a previous meeting the Chairman was requested
 to see the Metropolitan Commissioners and ascertain
 what they proposed as to a parkway near
 Mother brook. By the Chairman and Secretary
 of the Mel. Com. he was referred Commissioners
 Hemmingsway and Curtis, and wrote Mr Hemmingsway
 who agreed to make appointment and confer.
 Our Chairman presented a letter from the
 Metropolitan Secretary asking us to sign
 a quit Claim deed to Jos. C. Sharp, which was
 one of a number of pieces abandoned, with
 one additional piece taken shown on a blue
 print on which was a corrected line for a
 better border park way from the Boston line south
 for about 2000 feet on land of Hew, Slater, Sharp &c.

It was voted that the Chairman be requested
 to ask the Metropolitan Commissioners for information
 as to whether these owners where it was proposed
 to abandon had been paid for what was before taken and
 arrange for the Engineer to show us the lines. Adjourned at 9 p.m.
 L B Bidwell Secy.

1896

Aug 31st

The Hyde Park Commission met at 10 am. at the Studio of J. J. Emmet in Boston present Messrs Powers and Emmet, the Secretary being in Europe, Mr Emmet was Chosen Secretary pro tem. The meeting was called to consider the takings and abandonment of land in the Stony Brook Reservation and to assent to the same if found satisfactory. The plans and descriptions of the land not being quite clear and fully explained the Commission adjourned to meet at the rooms of the Metropolitan Park Commissioners.

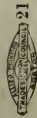
At 11 am met at the above place, explanations were made but did not satisfy - Adjourned to meet the Metropolitan Park Board and its engineer at 1.30 P.M.

At 1.30 pm met the Metropolitan Park Board and their Landscape gardener Mr. Elliott. Plans were fully explained and papers for abandonment and takings were signed by our Commission. Adjourned

CARNEY BUILDING.



ROOMS 904-5.



City of Boston.

Music Department,

Office of the Trustees.

Edward M. M. S.

1896

Nov. 20th

met at the house of the Chairman at 7.30 P.M. Records of previous meetings read and approved. The Chairman presented a letter from S. J. Elliott Chairman of the Hyde Park Select men, but acting for the Camp Meigs Memorial Association of Readville saying the Association had secured from the Navy Dept. at Washington four guns and nine projectiles which the Association desired to have set up on the park on the Camp ground at Readville as a memorial to the soldiers who encamped there during the War of the Rebellion and wished to know whether the Park Commissioners would be willing to bear the expense of setting the guns in position inasmuch as the Association is bearing the expense of their transportation to the ground.

The letter was referred to the Secretary to answer and a vote passed the Secretary be appointed a committee of one to investigate the matter and report early to the board the result. A vote

Nov. 20 was also passed authorizing the Secretary
to make such expenditure as might be
necessary for this investigation.
Adjourned at 9.30 p.m.

L B Kidwell

Secy.

1896

Nov. 30

Met at the Selectmens rooms. The Chairman being unavoidably absent J. J. Sumner acted as Chairman. The meeting was called to consider the matter of setting up the guns on the Park at Readville and by invitation S. J. Elliott, J. M. Boston and one other were present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Secretary made the following report. "In pursuance of the vote of the 20th Nov. the Secretary met S. J. Elliott Nov. 21st on the park at Readville and after looking over the ground suggested that he would make a sketch showing the guns in position. Nov. 23rd the Secretary again met Mr. Elliott on the ground and the guns were then being delivered, and measurements were made of them, and a suggestion that it would be better to place the four pieces radiating from the centre in a nearly horizontal position which struck Mr. Elliott favorably. The plan was made by the Secretary and with an estimate of cost presented Nov. 30 which generally met with the approval of those present. Some

Mar. 30

Changes in the position of the guns were suggested by Mr. Smuckring which all acquiesced in, and Mr. Elliott and the other Readville Citizens expressed themselves quite willing to leave the whole matter in the hands of the Park Commission and although no formal vote was passed, knowing that Mr. Powers was favorably inclined we verbally agreed to set up the guns. The season being so far advanced it was thought best not to attempt the work at once, and Mr. Smuckring undertook to get the opinion of experts in such matters.

Adjourned at 9 p.m.

L B Seelwieser

Sec'y.

1896

Dec. 17

Met at the house of the Chairman at 7.30 Pm. All present. The minutes of the last meeting read and approved.

Mr. Smelting made a report as to consulting Mr. Kraus about the work proposed on the Camp Meiggs park at Deadville. After the matter was explained a vote was passed authorizing the Secretary to go on and mount the guns as shown on the last plan made by him, at an expenditure not to exceed \$300.

It was suggested that Mr. Smelting should see Mr. Grew and ask if he would lease the Hyde Park Commission the land now used near Hazelwood Station for ball playing.

Adjourned at 7.10 Pm.

L B Bidwell,
Secy.

1897

Thursday Jan'y 7 met at the house of the Chairman at 7.30 p.m. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Mr. Smeking reported that he had seen Mr. Grew as to the land near Hazlewood Station for a play ground. Mr. Grew declined to lease it to the Park Commission for this purpose on the plea that those who went there were rough and had been complained of by the Railroad people. He would with the exception of two months in the year when the cattle were on it allow the boys to play there. Report accepted. The Chairman presented a letter from S. E. Whiting Acting Genl Supt of parks in the City of Cambridge saying he enclosed a copy of the Annual Report of the Park Com. of Cambridge and asking for ours in exchange. The letter was handed the Secretary to answer and to enclose a marked copy of our Town Report. The following Report was submitted by the Chairman to the Board and on motion it was voted that it be adopted as the report of the

Commission to the town of Hyde Park
for the year ending July 31st 1897

Fourth Annual Report of Park Commissioners.

The first Board of Park Commissioners under the law accepted by the town making the term three years, was organized March 20th 1896. During the first three years Commissioners were elected annually.

We deem it wise for reasons expressed in previous reports to raise each year, a small sum of money for park purposes, but, as the town is incurring large expense to put in the Sewer System, we do not recommend any appropriation for parks this year. If however during the next year anything is to be done in the way of

purchasing small tracts of land, it will be necessary to make an appropriation as there are not sufficient funds in our hands to make any considerable purchase. We have been urged to take several small pieces of land at the intersection of streets, some of which ought to be secured by the Town or Park Commission.

In a previous report we have referred to the fact that a park way connecting Stony Brook and Blue Hill Reservations is desirable and will probably be accomplished in the future, such way must cross the Railroads, and recognizing the fact that great changes were about to take place in the Readville District we urged the Metropolitan Commission to endeavor to settle the park way question in connection with the Abolition of the grade crossing, now being considered by a Commission appointed by the Council, so that Hyde Park

might have a parkway without any very large expense beyond the amount that would be necessary to build an ordinary road. The necessary proceedings for the abolition of grade crossings require time, and it has not yet been decided whether the highways will pass over or under the tracks nor where crossings are to be made. It seems fair to assume that there will be at least one crossing between Hyde park and Needville, and if such crossing should be made a park way, it would both accommodate the public as an ordinary road and solve the problem of connection of the reservations which if postponed may be very difficult and expensive. We do not know what course the Metropolitan Commission will pursue but they would have the hearty cooperation of the local board in anything which would tend to benefit the public.

and we have ascertained that the railroads are willing and anxious to aid in the matter if the two problems can be solved at one and the same time.

In the opinion of all interested the present seems to be the time to settle this important question.

At some time in the not very distant future a roadway will extend along the border around Stony Brook Reservation.

With a view of obtaining the best road at the most reasonable price the Metropolitan Commission has abandoned some lands along the border of this park.

The deeds of abandonment under the law had to be assented to by the local board. We have been very glad to give our assent to all deeds, and cordially endorse and approve the plan and action of the Metropolitan Commission.

From the very beginning the board urged that there should be an entrance to

Stony Brook reservation near Gordon Avenue. This will accommodate not only the people of Hyde Park but people who come from Boston, Milton, or roads in that direction, much more readily than the Cleveland Street entrance.

It is with great satisfaction that we are able to report that during this official year the Metropolitan Commission have taken a part of the land in the rear of Mr. Stells house at the corner of Gordon Avenue and Beaver Street. When the proposed road around the park is built we feel sure that this entrance will be greatly appreciated by the public.

The Camp Meiggs Memorial Association requested the board to set up four guns and nine projectiles which the United States Government had given them, upon the park at Hadville.

The association had borne the expense of transportation and had planned to erect at some future time a statue or memorial.

Camp Meigs is historic ground around which cluster memories of the late war in which the whole Commonwealth cannot fail to be interested, as it appeals to the spirit of patriotism so prominent in our people.

We felt that the association deserved much credit for having secured this camp ground for a park, and that their efforts should be encouraged.

We carefully investigated the matter, and concluded it was of sufficient importance to the public to justify us in making the necessary expenditure and passing a vote to that effect, but the actual work will have to be done in the spring after the frost is out of the ground.

Believing in healthful exercise we have

endeavored to secure a play ground for our boys and young men but so far have not succeeded. It would be a very agreeable task for your Commission to report next year that some public spirited citizen had given to the town for this purpose the use of any unoccupied land for a term of years, and we know that the rising generation would be grateful

Wilbur H Powers, Chairman
 L B Bidwell, Secretary
 John I Emeking,
 Park Commissioners

1897
March 7 Met at the house of the
Chairman, 23 Childs St. at
7-45 P. M.

Records of last meeting read
and approved.

Proceeded to organize for the year
1897 as follows: -

On motion of Mr. Enneking,
Lawson B. Bidwell was unanimously
elected chairman and on motion
of Mr. Bidwell, Hilbert C. Powers
was unanimously elected Secretary.

Voted that we cordially endorse
the attempt of the town of Dedham
to secure a boulevard connecting that
town with Stony Brook Reservation
as we believe the same to be useful
to both towns.

Voted that the Secretary confer
with the Metropolitan Park
Commissioners and learn if

possible, what they desire,
and report.

Adjourned at 4-35 P. M.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec.

1897
Oct. 18

Met at the selectmen's room
at 7-30 P.M.

Records of last meeting read and
approved.

The hearing relating to the cutting
of a tree at the side of Summer
Block near the corner of Hyde
Park Ave. and West River St.
was opened according to notice
previously posted.

Fred A. Hall appeared representing
Henry S. Bunton, Trustee for
John S. Bleakie, and advocated
the removal of the tree, saying it
was an injury to Mr. Bleakie's
building and an obstruction
to the proposed sidewalk.

On motion of Mr. Powers it was
voted that Mr. Bleakie is authorized
to remove so much of the tree as
stands upon land of the town.

The chairman presented a letter

From Frank B. Rich, Secretary of Committee on Town Hall, requesting the Park Commissioners to state what room they need in the proposed new Town Hall.

On motion of Mr. Fowers it was voted that the Chairman inform Mr. Rich that they need only a small room in which to meet occasionally and that the room can be used by other town officers for similar purposes.

On motion of Mr. Fowers it was voted that the Chairman confer with the Metropolitan Park Commissioners to obtain information relating to proposed roads in Stony Brook Reservation.

The Chairman reported that the hearing as to the removal of two trees at the corner of Milton St. and Hyde Park Ave., Readville, and

one at the intersection of West and Austin streets, was held at the house of the Selectmen Aug. 9. 1897, and liberty was given the Selectmen to remove the tree in Readville only.

A hearing was had on the removal of a tree on the corner of West and Austin streets, Oct. 4. 1897, and the Selectmen notified that they could remove it if on land belonging to the Town.

No removals appeared at either of the above hearings.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec.

1897

Nov. 8

Met at the house of the Secretary.
23 Childs St. at 7-30 P. M.

Records of previous meeting read and approved.

The Chairman reported that he had ascertained that the Metropolitan Park Commissioners had contracted for a road to be built connecting Brainard St. Heyde Park and Washington St. Boston, nearly through the center of Stony Brook Reservation.

The Secretary read the request of Joseph S. Bridgman that certain electric wires be removed from a tree in front of his premises -

On motion of Mr. Enneking it was voted that the Secretary apply to the town Council to learn if we have the right to compel the removal of wires in this case.

On motion of Mr. Fowere it was voted that the Metropolitan Park Com.

be requested to furnish a
policeman for Saturday afternoon
for the ball grounds in Hyde Park.

Adjourned at 9-35 P. M.

Wilbur H. Towers,
Sec.

1898
Jan. 10.

Met at the house of the Secretary
23 Childs St. at 7-45 P.M.

The records of the previous meeting
were read and approved.

The following legal opinion of
James E. Otter, Esq. was read by the
Secretary and it was voted that it
be spread upon the records.

" Boston, Nov. 15, 1897-

My dear sir: -

I am in receipt of your letter
of the 9th inst., stating that the Park
Commission of Hyde Park desire my
opinion on a communication
received from Geo. C. Bridgman
and certain interrogatories stated
in your letter.

' Bridgman Communication
Oct. 28 1897.

Gentlemen: -

The Electric Light Co's

wire passing through the maple tree in front of my house evidently is out of order as it has set the tree on fire several times and in different places. Will you order them to remove the wire at once or it is likely to kill the tree. I have called their attention to it but they do not attend to it.

Geo. C. Bridgman,
71 Maple St.

To your first interrogatory, viz:

'Assuming the facts to be as stated, what authority or power has the Park Commission in the matter'?

I assume from your entire letter that the Electric Light Company has a valid franchise and location from the Selectmen.

While Chap. 428 of the Acts of 1897 transfers to the Park Commission the powers and duties of tree-wardens

prescribed by Chap. 190 of the Acts of 1896, namely, the full care and control of all public shade trees in the town, yet this authority does not, in my opinion, authorize the commission to comply with the request contained in the letter of Mr. Bridgman to your board.

On the facts stated or assumed in the first interrogatory, the Electric Light Company is operating its franchise pursuant to the provisions of Chap. 109 of the Public Statutes and Acts in amendment thereof.

In that event, the Company has vested rights in its poles and wires located in our streets; and they can be removed only in the manner prescribed by the statute, to wit: That after notice to the Company and a hearing,

The selectmen may direct any alteration as to the location or height of the wires (Pub. St. c. 109. sec. 3)

Your second question, 'Can the Park Commission order the removal of the electric wires and enforce that order?' I answer, no, for the reasons stated in my answer to interrogatory 1; that that right or duty is vested in another board of town officers, to wit. the selectmen.

In reply to the series of questions under what may be termed interrogatory third, to wit: 'What course should the Park Commission take in relation to a hearing? Can they order the removal of the wires without a hearing? Is there any provision for notice of a hearing in this case?' I would suggest that the Park Commission request the selectmen to give the Electric

Light Company a hearing, pursuant to the aforesaid statute.

The Park Commission cannot, in my opinion, for the reason hereinbefore stated, order the Company to remove the wires without a hearing.

I am not aware of any provision for a notice of a hearing in the case stated by you, except as prescribed by the aforesaid statute.

To interrogatory fourth, to wit: Electric wires pass through the branches of many trees in the town of Hyde Park, and the Park Commission desire to know if the new statutes have imposed the duty of looking after such wires when they may injure shade trees?

It is the duty of your Commission to preserve shade and ornamental trees, and under the condition

stated in this interrogatory it is your duty, in my opinion, to notify the selectmen when such wires are injuring shade trees, and to urge them to take such action as will be necessary to preserve the trees.

Interrogatory Fifth:

The selectmen have the authority to permit wires to be located in streets as the Commission understands it.

If parties, when authorized by the selectmen to place wires in the streets place them so as to injure shade trees, is it the duty of the Park Commission to interfere and protect such shade trees?

The foregoing answers cover the question last propounded, and fully answer same -

I am

Yours very truly

James E. Otter

Wilbur H. Pomeroy, Esq.

Chairman of Park Commission, Hyde Park, Mass.

The Secretary reported that the bill to Mr. Cotten for this opinion was twenty-five dollars. It was voted on motion of the Secretary that this bill be approved and paid.

On motion of Mr. Enneking it was voted that the Chairman investigate and report upon the best methods of insulating electric wires that pass through shade trees.

Mr. Enneking reported that he had conferred with the Electric Light Co. as to the mutilation of shade trees and that their offer to pay a man selected by the Park Commissioners to go with them when they are placing wires upon trees or trimming trees about wires.

Mr. Enneking reported that the Metropolitan Park Commission through its local agent had stated that they had 200 few policemen

to supply one for the playground.
On motion of the Secretary this report was accepted.

The following report was submitted by the Chairman to the board and on motion of the Secretary it was voted that it be adopted as the report of the Commissioners to the town of Hyde Park for the year ending Jan. 31, 1898.

Fifth Annual Report of the Park Commissioners.

As no appropriation was asked for or made for Park purposes in 1897 and the amount, now available, is too small for the purchase of additional land none has been taken since our last report.

While the reason, given by us, for not asking for any appropria-

tion last year, i.e., the prospective large expenditure by the Town for sewers, seemed ^{then} a good one, it is evident that a considerable part of the burden on our people will be distributed over a period of many years and that this ought not to prevent all local park improvements, or of doing all we can to make our Town an attractive place of residence, we think a small appropriation should be made each year until a sufficient sum has accumulated to purchase small areas, remote from the land taken by the Metropolitan Commission.

As mentioned in our Fourth Annual Report we voted to set up at Camp Meigs four guns, given to the Memorial Association by the United States Government. A contract was made with J. H. Leavitt for the vacation

and masonry and placing the guns, and with D. H. Mahony for the grading, and the work was completed and the guns dedicated on Memorial Day.

The approved plans for the elimination of the grade crossings at Readville provide for Milton St. being made 60 feet wide and to pass over the New York, New Haven & Hartford R. R. and under the New England R. R. which will make a safe and reasonably wide way between the Stony Brook and Blue Hill Reservations.

The Metropolitan Board has contracted for a drive way from the Boston line to the western limit of the Stony Brook Reservation and have made examinations looking to a Park way at some point between the Bridge Street and

Milton Street crossings of the New England Railroad and down the Newport to Milton St., and making a more direct way between the two Reservations.

An Act was passed by the Legislature and approved May 25th 1897 as follows: -

Chap. 428, Acts of 1897

Sec. 1

Tree wardens or Park Commissioners when chosen in towns, shall have full care and control of all public shade trees in the town, have charge of the expenditure of all public funds appropriated or granted for setting out shade trees and perform such other duties as are prescribed in chapter one hundred and ninety of the Acts of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-six, entitled "An Act to provide for the preservation of public shade trees and to

authorize towns to elect
tree wardens:-

Approved May 25. 1897-

The Act of 1896 referred to made
as follows:

Chap. 190

An Act to provide for the preser-
vation of public shade trees and
to authorize towns to elect tree
wardens.

Tree Wardens.

Section 1. Any town may, at its annual
election of town officers elect a
tree warden, to serve for one year.

Powers and duties

Section 2 The tree warden shall have full
care and control of all public
shade trees in the town. He shall
have charge of the expenditure of
all public funds appropriated

or granted for setting out shade trees, and may order the removal of such shade trees, or parts thereof, as he may determine to be for the best interests of the public, after hearing parties interested.

Not to remove, &c. certain trees without public notice.

Section 3.

No tree warden or other person shall cut down, remove or injure any live public shade tree until the warden has given public notice of the intention so to do by posting a notice on the tree and in at least seven public places in the town, said notice shall also appoint a suitable time and place for hearing all parties interested. At the time and place appointed, the tree warden

shall attend and hear all persons relative to the matter, and shall then determine as to the necessity or expediency of such removal and his decision shall be final.

Section 4 Tree wardens shall enter and prosecute complaints for malicious injury to, or unlawful acts concerning, public shade trees.

Section 5 Tree wardens shall receive reasonable compensation for their services from the town treasury.

Section 6. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 7. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved March 25, 1896

Applications have been made for the removal of the two shade trees at the corner of Milton Street and Heyde Park Avenue and two at the corner of West and Austin Streets and one on Heyde Park Avenue near West River Street.

On each the proper notices were posted, hearing had and liberly given to remove all but one on the corner of West and Austin Streets.

Complaint was also made that the Electric Light wires were burning a shade tree on Maple St.

The opinion of the Council for the Town was that as the authority to locate ^{the} wires was in the selectmen the Park Commissioners had no jurisdiction in the matter.

In this connection we

would suggest that no
trimming for the placing
or clearing of wires should be
made which shall mar the
beauty of our shade trees,
and that the insulation of
all electrically charged wires
be such that no burning will occur.
All of which is respectfully submitted.

On motion of Mr. Enneking a vote
of thanks was extended to the
chairman for his excellent
report. — Adjourned at 9-25 P. M.

Wilbur H. Powers
Sec.

154
March 14th 1898

Met at the Town Offices at 7.45 PM.
M^{rs} Powers and Bidwell present.
Organized by Choosing W^m Powers Chairman
and L B Bidwell Secretary. The minutes
of the last meeting read and approved.
J L Blaisdell having applied for the
removal of two small shade trees inside
the street line in front of his lot on Wood
Av. near East River Street, the Secretary
reported that the notices were posted according
to law, and appointment made for a hearing
at the rooms of the select men at the above
named hour, and no one appearing it
was voted that permission be given Blaisdell
to remove the trees. Adjourned.

L B Bidwell

Sec'y.

1898
March 18

155

Met at the house of the Chairman
at 7.30 pm. All present.

After a discussion as to land on Dell Av.
and as to land of the Real Estate & Building
Co. it was voted to ask the Selectmen
to insert in the Warrant "To see if the
town will appropriate not to exceed
the sum of \$2000. for park purposes"
A vote was passed that the Chairman
be authorized to employ John Haigh
for a few days to examine and clean
up shade trees in the town.

Adjourned at 9.20 pm.

L B Redwell
Secy.

156
1898
May 5

Met at the Town Office at 7.45 P.M.
Messrs Powers. Smelting and self present.
Minutes of former meeting read and approved
Application having been made by the Select
men for the removal of a shade tree in the
gutter on the south side of Dana Av. between
Spring and Washington streets, also by D.W.
Lewis for the removal of a shade tree at
38 Oak Street, the Secretary reported that the
proper notices were posted according to
law. F B Keich appeared for the Select
men and L J French at first opposed but
understanding that the gutters would not now
be paved if the tree could not be removed,
expressed himself under the circumstances
in favor of removing it, and it was
voted that permission be given to the
applicants to remove each of these trees
and the Secretary was directed to notify
them.

Mr Keich also said members of the
Camp Meigs association had desired the

Select men to expend some money in buying the loam and sowing grass seed at Camp Meigs which he did not think the Selectmen had a right to do, and he referred the matter to us. It was voted that Mr. Smucking make an investigation as to what it was proper for us to do and report at some future meeting - Adjourned at 9 P.M.

L B Fairwell,
Secretary.

June 28-98 Met at house of Chairman at eight P.M. All present.

Talked over the matter of the Metropolitan Park Commissioners taking land along the Neponset River for a Boulevard. I said I did not think it necessary to take the Railroad land as the Boulevard would be on the other side of the river. We talked of trying to get the Governor interested and to speak to the Metropolitan Commissioners. It was decided that Mr. Smeltzer should see Mr. Augustus Neumannway and ascertain if he could find out whether the Metropolitan Park Commissioners were generally favorable to their taking for which \$1,000,000 had been voted through Representative Tucker's efforts and Mr. Powers was also to learn what he could of their intentions. Adjourned at 9 P.M.

L.B. Redwell,
Secy.

July 20. 98. Hearing at the rooms of the Selectmen
as to cutting a tree at the corner of
Wood Av. and East River St. permission
given to cut.

L B Bidwell.
Sec'y.

Sept-19/88 Met at the house of the Secretary at 7.45 p.
 All present. Minutes of four previous meetings read and approved. Mr. Emmetling reported from the May 5th meeting that he had seen the President of the Camp Meigs Ass and Mr. Elliott and agreed they might spend fifteen dollars on the Camp Meigs ground. Also as to the June 28th meeting that he went to see Augustus Hemming way but did not find him, and then saw the Secretary of the Metropolitan Park Com. and judged from what he said that the Com. felt as if our Selectmen were not dealing very liberally with them as to land owned by the town in the Stoney Brook Reservation. Our Chairman expressed himself as willing to assist the Metropolitan Com on any matter pertaining to the land, if they would express any desire for us to do so. The trimming of the trees in the public ways in town was arranged as follows.
 Mr. Hay was to be employed for

this purpose, and the Section of the Town
North west of the Boston & Providence Railroad
was given the Chairman, and the portion
South East of the New England Railroad
was given to the Secretary, and the
balance to Mr. Emmet to look after.
Adjourned at 9.30 PM.

L B Bidwell.
Secretary.

Oct. 14. 98 Met at the house of the Chairman at 7.30 PM. Present Messrs Powers & Bidwell. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. A general conversation and canvas of names for the Committee of forty five was had, to influence the acquisition of land for a Boulevard by the Metropolitan Park Commission. Adjourned at 8.30 PM.

L B Bidwell
Sec'y.

Jan'y 2^d 99 Met at the house of the Chairman at 8.00 PM to consider the annual report. All present. The minutes of the last meeting read corrected and approved. On motion the Chairman was requested to draft the report and various suggestions were made by each as to the matter. Adjourned at 8.45 PM.

L B Bidwell
Sec'y.

Jan'y 10. 99 Met at the house of the Chairman
at 7.30 PM. Messrs Powers and Kidwell
present. Took up the matter of the
Report and decided as to what it should
be. Adjourned at 7.15 PM.

L B Kidwell
Secy.

Fifth Annual Report of the Park Commissioners.

1. We do not recommend the appropriation
of any money for Park purposes this year
for the reason that taxes must necess-
arily be large owing to the appropriations
already made for the Public Library and
for widening Hyde Park Avenue.
We feel it proper to ask, however, that any
sum of money which may be paid to our
town by the Metropolitan Park Commission
for land taken shall be appropriated to

park purposes. We had an appropriation in 1894, of two thousand dollars, which is all we have ever had; and of that there is now an unexpended balance of 1571.35.

The expenses of the Board the past year, as usual have been light. Our hearings have been held in the Selectmen's Room, and our usual meetings at the house of the members, and consequently, we have had no rent to pay, and the custom of permitting the Chairman and Secretary to defray all the expenses for Stationery and postage has again prevailed. Members have, as usual, either walked or paid their own car fare, when travelling upon business in relation to parks or trees on public grounds.

Many meetings have been held and much labor performed since this Board was first organized. We have never had any salary. Our present Secretary, has

free of charge, even posted notices of hearings in seven public places and one on each tree which petitioners desired to cut. While we were willing to look over the town roads to ascertain just where limbs ought to be cut on shade trees, not being furnished with maps either public or private, we have been obliged to hire a man to trim a few trees, and have also paid for copying for publication the stenographic report of the admirable speech of Mr. de las Casas, Chairman of the Metropolitan Park Commission, delivered at Hyde park on September 22, 1898.

The total expenditure of the past year has been fifteen dollars.

2. We have had before us during 1898 five petitions for permission to cut shade trees. In every case the statutory notices were given and a public hearing

held. In all but one case, it was clear to the Board that the petitions should be granted.

The Select men asked leave to cut a tree on Dana Avenue, and one of our Board took pains to see the residents living in that neighborhood about it, and yet only one person appeared in opposition at the hearing, and he after listening to the evidence of the petitioners, concluded that it was best to permit the cutting of the tree rather than to impede the work of the Select men who proposed to pare the gutters if the tree was cut. However after permission was granted by a majority vote of the Board, a petition was started in that vicinity asking that the tree should not be removed, but the tree was cut before any remonstrance was fully prepared, and therefore neither our Board nor the Select men were officially informed of the character or weight of the objections.

This shows the necessity of attending the public hearings if any one has objections to the cutting of a tree. The Board has to act upon the evidence before it, but invites the fullest discussion at all its hearings.

- 3- The Metropolitan Park Commission have taken all the land in Hyde Park necessary for a park way connection Stony Brook Reservation, by way of Paul's Bridge with the Blue Hills. It has always seemed to us that this ought to have been done in connection with the abolition of grade crossings at Readville, and we urged this in all proper ways, but as it was not then done, we commend the taking of the land (most of which is not valuable) and hope that, at some time, the way will be constructed.

The Metropolitan Park Commission have also constructed a road through Stony Brook Reservation, commencing at Main and Street

in Hyde Park and ending at Washington Street, Boston. The work is well done and we find here just such a use of money as the public like to commend. This furnishes to our town another very delightful walk or drive.

- 14 From its inception, this Board has favored a Parkway along the banks of the Neponset River. Last spring, by invitation of Dr. Samuel A. Luttle our Representative in 1898, the Metropolitan Park Commission and the Committee on Metropolitan Affairs of the Legislature came out to look over the situation in connection with the Blue Hills, the Neponset River and the Canton meadows. With many of our citizens, we joined with Dr. Luttle in urging upon the Committee on Metropolitan Affairs the importance of this work. The Committee was convinced of the necessity of bettering the banks of the Neponset River, from the

standpoint of health, and of the value of a boulevard along its borders which were made beautiful by the Creator, but are marred at some points by the handiwork of man.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee, a general appropriation of one million dollars was made, having in view the expenditure of several hundred thousand dollars of it along the Nepermet. Many of our citizens united in inviting the Chairman of the Metropolitan Park Commission and others to address us upon this and kindred subjects. It is no disparagement to the other able speeches made at the time of the public meeting held in response to this invitation, to say that his speech placed the subject before us in a clear, forcible and practical way and ought to be read by all our citizens. We append to this report extracts relating to the Nepermet River and regret there is not room for the whole speech.

While the construction of this proposed boulevard will cost something, it will increase the value of land which it will develop, and cause buildings to be put up so that we shall at once begin to realize upon the investment. We heartily favor the taking of the land now and the construction of the roadway in the near future.

The Metropolitan Park Commission have manifested a strong desire to undertake this work in accordance with the spirit of the appropriation, but at the same time, are unwilling to pay exorbitant prices for the land needed. They have prepared a plan of all the land they desire along the borders of the Uptonset, and have prepared for each owner a description and a plan of his land which they wish to purchase and have requested him to give them an option.

Some of the Owners have been generous, and most of them have only asked such prices as they would expect from their neighbors for the same land. In a few cases, no

Option has been given.

We feel that this is an improvement which is very desirable for Hyde Park and Boston, as well as necessary to a proper completion of the parkway, uniting the Boston Park system to the Blue Hills.

The trial at Dedham of a case brought to determine the value of certain land taken in Stony Brook Reservation, tends to prove that Norfolk juries will not burden the Commonwealth with exorbitant claims for damages where land is taken for public use, and a recent decision of a jury in relation to land taken in Milton for park purposes seems to confirm this idea. We therefore hope that the Metropolitan Park Commission will take the land along the Neponset by the right of eminent domain, and where owners ask too much, will bring it before a jury to fix a fair price. At the same time, we hope that all the owners will finally be willing to accept what is reasonable and

thus aid the town and Commonwealth
to improve and make attractive the
Community in which we live.

Signed Wilbur H Powers Chairman
Lawson B. Belwell Secretary
John J. Smelking
Park Commissioners of Hyde Park

*Extract from Speech of William B. de Las Casas
Chairman of the Metropolitan Park Commission
delivered in Hyde Park Mass. September 22, 1898.
The above mentioned extract secured*

EXTRACT FROM SPEECH OF WILLIAM B. de LAS CASAS
CHAIRMAN OF METROPOLITAN PARK COMMISSION, DE-
LIVERED IN HYDE PARK, MASS., SEPTEMBER 22, 1898.

*and inserted
by Wm. J.
Emery
Secy*

Last year the Metropolitan Park Commission recommended that provision be made for acquiring lands in addition to those on Charles river, for those on Mystic and Neponset rivers, considered as spots of particular beauty. If only the shores of one such place were to be provided, naturally the Charles river is the first river in the district; naturally the Commission reported and said that that must be attended to first. Everybody acquiesced in that and recognized it, just as they did when we said: If there is to be but one beach, when all considerations are taken into account, Revere Beach is the beach which can be most easily reached, which is the best when you get to it and can be of use to the largest number of people. But the Commission last year went to the Legislature and said that "If the work is to go any further they recommend that provision be made to enable something to be done upon the Neponset river and upon the Mystic river." As I understood it, it is quite true that, when the matter came into consideration before the committees, it was understood on all the bills that were there, and they united them into a general appropriation, that they were making provision which, on an estimate of tax values and of a percentage of cost for the lands upon the river, those which seemed to be available, was sufficient to provide for acquiring lands, substantially all that would be required upon the Mystic and the Neponset rivers. In that spirit the Metropolitan Park Commission, I will say frankly to you to-day, take you into their confidence and say that the Metropolitan Park Commission have proceeded diligently with their

study and consideration of how they could best apply those funds, make them go the farthest and produce the greatest benefit to the district and to this community in the acquirement of lands along the Neponset river. (applause.)

* * * * *

I am not hear by any means to have you draw from what I say the conclusion that the Metropolitan Park Commission is not going to spend any money on the Neponset river unless you come forward and show your interest by appropriating \$50,000, or doing something of that sort. That is not our business at all. Our business is to consider the problem and do the very best we can. We know there is a bad problem here. We have been up and down the river. We know what the state board of health said. We know that there is a matter here that ought to be remedied and ought to be considered. But, I have said, as trustees of the state it is our business, not to acquire this particular spot or that particular spot along this river, but to acquire that which will give the people the largest amount of the river for the money which we are able to devote to the purpose and which will acquire, as far as possible, the most critical points where there is pollution or where there are bad effects to be seen from the shore, and that is what we are trying to study and trying to figure out. You, gentlemen, can co-operate, not by making appropriations, unless you are disposed to do it, but by making it your business to stir up a public sentiment which shall demand that the shores of the river, where they are wanted, shall be sold at as reasonable prices as individuals sell those to other individuals.

* * * * *

The Neponset river is naturally beautiful. It is naturally a playground, a pleasure ground, a breathing space, which you ought to have in its beauty, in its purity, and in all that goes to make you happy and blessed in it. That does not mean, gentlemen, (for sometimes people get false impressions in their minds), that does not mean that industries are to be interfered with. It does not mean that there is any spirit on the part of the Commonwealth or of the state to come here and wipe out in-

dustries that happen to be located along the river. It does not mean that you are to have to go somewhere else to find your job or that the people who own those factories and buildings along the river are to be obliged to give those up and go elsewhere. Nothing of the sort. That never enters into it. Where the people are ready and willing and desirous to abandon those, then it becomes a fair question whether they shall be purchased or not; but the park business should never interfere with the legitimate business of the community. But when it becomes a question of whether you shall locate confectionery shops or something else out over the edge of your river, then I tell you, gentlemen, it does become a question of common interest (applause), and I take it that you can decide whether such improvements as that are legitimate and may be advantageously carried out in your midst. I thank you for your attention. (Great applause).

1899
 March 9th Met at the house of Mr.
 W. H. Powers
 Organized by choosing L. B.
 Bidwell Chairman and
 John J. Cummings Secretary -
 Records of last meeting read
 and approved -
 First business in order
 was, a request made by
 E. O. Taylor & J. Lincoln etc.
 to allow him to remove 3 or 4
 shade trees in front of his house.

It was voted to put up
 notices as requested by law,
 also that a public hearing
 take place at the selectmen's
 room March 23 at 7.30 o'clock.

General discussion on
 highway river improvement.

Adjourned 9.35 P.M.

Wm J. Cummings
 Secy.

1899

March 23 Hearing on Trees at 7.30 P.M.

Full board present.

Mr. E. O. Taylor expressed
 a desire to have several trees
 in front of his house removed
 and gave his reasons why.

No remonstrants.

Records of last meeting read
 and approved.

It was voted that the request
 of Mr. Taylor be granted &

that the removal be supervised
by the Secty of the board -

adjourned 8:15 Pm

John J. Cunningham
Secty -

1899

April 22^d Met at the Selectmens
rooms at 7.30 o'clock -

Records of last meeting
read and approved -
a long letter was read signed
by The Rev. W. Deane Readville
in regard to the taking
of land by the Metropolitan
Park Commission. voted

that Mr. Deane be informed
by the Secty that this
board had as yet received
no notice of any taking
of land in his section 1.

adjourned 8:35 Pm

John J. Cunningham
Secty -

Letter read signed Wm. G. Robinson
Robinson St. Lincoln St. regarding
Commons to remove three trees
out street in front of his house.
~~that the tree be removed~~ ~~the tree be removed~~
voted to allow the tree to be removed.
by Mr W. G. Robinson

1899 May 29 Met at the rooms of the
Selectmen at 730 P.M.

Every member of Board present
~~Letter~~ read requesting the
removal of a pine tree on
Winthrop St. adjoining Public
Library Bldg. signed H. B. Minor
for Trustees of Library -

Chairman Rich of Selectmen
showed cause why the tree
ought to be removed -

Request granted - The
secty. requested to write
Mr. Minor to that effect.

A delegation from Readville
requested an interview in
regard to whether the H. P.
Park Commissioners would consider
a proposition to improve and
beautify Readville Park, also
the painting of the Flag pole -
It was voted that the Chairman
have the Pole painted and the

Secty requested, by the board, to inquire
into the matter of the cost of suggested
improvements, plan by a Land scape
gardner &c - and report
adjourned 8.45 P.M.

John J. Emetting Secty

1899 Aug. 8th Met at the rooms of the
Select men 7.30 P.M. Mr Bidwell
& Emetting present - -

A request to have a tree
removed on Dana Ave -

considered - As no one appeared
at the hearing, it was voted
to have the tree trimmed and
allow it to remain for the present

adjourned 8 o'clock

John J. Emetting
Secty

1899 Met at the house of Mr. Powers
 Sept-18th 7.30 P.M. Mr Bidwell
 Powers & Emething present -
 Records read and approved -
 voted to assent to the taking
 of more land for Story Brook
 Renovation near the entrance
 Gordon Ave - by the Met. P.C.
 adjourned 8.30 P.M.
 John J. Emething
 Sec'y.

Sept. 25th 1899
 Met at the house of the Sec'y.
 7.30 P.M. - whole board present -
 Studied the plan of land
 taken by the Metropolitan Park
 Commission along the banks of
 the Neponset river near Pauls Bridge -
 The takings comprising land owned
 by Henry M. Deane, Readville Homestead
 Association & New England Trappers

& Breeders association
 voted to assent to the Takings
 Plan number 187 -
 adjourned 8.15
 John J. Eumetzig Secty.

Nov. 24th 1899
 Met at the rooms of the Selectmen
 7. Am Mr. Bidwell & Eumetzig
 present - Listened to arguments
 why a certain tree on cor. of
 River & Fairview ave. should
 be removed - as a doubt
 was raised whether the right
 tree was under consideration
 the matter was laid upon the
 table, until some future
 meeting - Selectmen were principal
 parties interested - adjourned 7.30
 P.M.
 John J. Eumetzig
 Secty.

Dec. 18th 1899

Met at the Selectmen's rooms
at 7 P.M. Full board present.

Records read and approved of
meetings Sept. 28 & Nov. 24th.

voted to allow Selectmen
to remove two trees on Cor. of
West-River & Fairview Ave.

Sec'y to notify Selectmen &
Wm E Durgin Supt A. T. & T. Co.,
adjourned at 7:30 P.M.
John J. Emmet Sec'y.

Dec. 25th 1899

Met at the house of Mr. Powers
member of our board - at 11 a.m.
Examined Plans & Description
numbered 200 of Takings by the
Metropolitan ~~Park~~ Commission
of the borders of the Neponset river.
adjourned at 12 o'clock.
John J. Emmet Sec'y.

Dec. 27 1899
Met at the house of Mr
Powers at 7.30 P.m.

The whole board present -
Plan 226 of land taken along
the border of Neponset river
by the Metropolitan Park
Commission was examined,
discussed and voted to
assent to the takings -

It was also voted to assent
to takings described on
plan 200 -

The former plan 226 comprised
land reaching from Fairmount
ave north easterly to the town -
line. No takings yet on the
easterly side of the river from
Fairmount ave. to the red bridge.
Plan 200 takes the border of the river
and part of adjacent land from
Fairmount ave. south westerly to where
the river ^{crosses} under the new English

R.R. tracks near the Hyde Park
Water works.

adjourned 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ P.m.

John J. Emmet sec'y.

March 13. 1900

Met at the office of Lawson B. Kidwell in the Terminal Station Boston at 5.05 P.M.

Lawson B. Kidwell was chosen temporary chairman.

On motion John J. Enns king was unanimously chosen chairman and Wilbur H. Fowler Secretary.

Adjourned

Wilbur H. Fowler,
Secy.

April 4, 1900. Met at house of Sec. 4 Foul St. at 6.30 P.M.
Records of two previous meetings read and approved.
Approved bill of J. E. Quenworth for \$4.75. - On motion of Sec. voted that all plans now in the possession of the Park Commission be filed in the Town Records. On motion of Mr. Kidwell voted that we approve of taking, in concurrence with the Met. Park Commission, certain additions to Stony Brook reservation bordering on Beaver St., as more fully appears upon Com's plan #271, Wm T. Purce, Engineer.
Wilbur H. Fowler, Secy.

1901

Jan. 3.

Met at the house of the Secretary #4 Pond St. Hyde Park at 7-30 P.M. All present.

The records of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The bill of John A. Haigh amounting to \$3.00 for the trimming of trees, while the Commission had that duty to perform, was approved.

Voted to assent to the abandonment, by the Metropolitan Park Commission, of a portion of Coleman St. in the Stony Brook Reservation.

Voted to assent to the abandonment, by the Metropolitan Park Commission, of various owners including George W. Wardrop and others, of certain lands taken on and near the Neponset River.

The Secretary reported that he had filed with the town records

all plans in his possession, of lands taken by the Metropolitan Park Commission in the Town of Hyde Park, but that he had discovered that one or two plans of such taking had never come into his possession.

The annual report was discussed.

Adjourned at 9-10 P. M.

Wilbur H. Powers,
Sec.

1901

Feb. 4.

Met at the house of the Sec. 4 Bond St. Hyde Park. at 8 o'clock P. M. All present.

Records of the previous meeting were read and approved. The Sec. read the annual report as prepared by him and the same was approved, signed by all the members of the Commission and is as follows -

Seventh Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners.

The law passed in 1899, compelling towns to elect a Tree Warden, has been a relief to the Park Commission, and, in consequence, the labors of the year have been comparatively light.

Thinking it more convenient for the public, we have filed all plans of land taken by the Metropolitan Park Commission in Hyde Park with the town records.

April 4th we approved the taking by the Metropolitan Park Commission of certain additions to Stony Brook Reservation bordering on Beaver Street.

From motives of economy and to avoid litigation, we have also approved of abandonments by the Metropolitan Park Commission of certain lands near the Neponset River, and of a portion of Coleman St. in Stony Brook Res.

When advocating the taking of Stony Brook Reservation, we called the attention of our citizens, in 1895, to the fact that we were likely to pay just the same proportion of expense if all the metropolitan parks were located at a distance, that we would have to pay if some of them were in or near our town. Since then we have made this same point in several public ways. We thought that assessed valuation and population would have more to do with the amount required to be paid by each town than all other factors.

That we were correct in this position seems to be borne out by the findings of the commission appointed to decide the matter.

According to their report, the town of Hyde Park has to pay .05761 per cent. of the entire amount levied upon the metropolitan district, while the town

of Brookline, in which no metropolitan park has been located pays .06029 percent, and the town of Milton pays .02043 per cent.

The assessed valuation of Milton is larger than that of Hyde Park, while the population is considerably less.

An appeal has been taken from the findings of this commission, to the Supreme Judicial Court, on two points. The town of Brookline objects because the commission did not give the reasons for the apportionment as stated, and the town of Westwood claims that by reason of a defect in the Acts they are not required to pay anything. Whatever the decision of the Supreme Court may be, we think that, in any apportionment, valuation and population will be the chief elements upon which the cost will be apportioned.

According to the report of the commission our apportionment for 1981 would be as follows: -

Proportion of Sinking Funds:	
Metropolitan Parks	\$ 724.41
Boulevards	157.65
Nantasket	<u>61.64</u>
Total Sinking Fund Requirements	\$ 943.70

Interest Requirements:	
Metropolitan Parks	\$ 1615.22
Boulevards	350.06
Nantasket	<u>134.24</u>
Total Interest	\$ 2099.52

Maintenance	
Parks	\$ 673.48
Boulevards	171.22
Nantasket	<u>48.48</u>
Total	\$ 893.18

Grand Total	\$ 3936.40
-------------	------------

The assessed valuation of Key de Park on May 1, 1900, was \$10,554,250.

It will doubtless be larger next May. On the valuation of last May, taking the report of the Apportionment Commission as a basis, the tax-payer in Keyde Park would have to pay on each \$1000 of assessed valuation 87 cents, or substantially $\frac{3}{8}$ of a mill upon each dollar.

According to this finding we pay the same proportion toward the cost of Nantasket Reservation that we do toward the cost of Stony Brook Reservation, and the same proportion toward the maintenance of a Boulevard at Rensselaer Beach that we would toward a Boulevard located in Keyde Park.

It would doubtless be a paying investment, from the standpoint of valuation, if our town had to pay

the entire cost of land taken and for the construction of a boulevard within the limits of Hyde Park.

The construction of a fine road usually enhances the value of real estate in its vicinity, and when it becomes apparent that we have to pay just about the same proportion of all money appropriated for Metropolitan purposes, whether that money is used for park or boulevard purposes in our town or at Bantasket Beach or Middlesex Fells, it becomes equally apparent that it is wise for our citizens to press their claims for parks or boulevards with all the force and eloquence possible.

If the Metropolitan Park Commission has funds in its hands at any time for boulevard purposes it would be a wise act on the part of our citizens to advocate in every

may the construction of a boulevard
along the Reposement.

We recognize the plain fact that its
pollution should cease first, but
we trust the time is not far distant
when the public will demand that
life and health be considered more
and the pocketbooks of a few less.
Is it not better that filth be turned
into the sewer and not into our
once delightful Reposement?

In this case liberty has been turned
into license and it is about time
that life and the pursuit of happiness
along its banks have more consideration.

If the Reposement were an artery of
life and not of death as now, if
pure water as of yore flowed down
to the mighty sea, with canoes
and boats darting to and fro,
with the shadows of trees and waving
branches reflected as from a

mirror would it not be an attraction worth having? Would it not pay, if we must come to that basis, in health and in increased land value?

Let us see the dollar that is produced by purity and beauty as easily and cheaply as the one which is produced by those industries which turn our once beautiful river into a sewer, menace our health and offend the eye and nose.

A pure stream of water is a constant source of pleasure and an ever-attractive feature, but water so polluted that fish cannot live in it and boatmen shun it, have already set boards of health and doctors to thinking. All our citizens should see the importance of a boulevard along its banks.

Let us change it from a source of germ and disease to a source of health and pleasure.

We urge you all to do what you
can to secure a change in the
use to which the Jefferson River
is now put, and to fasten our
claims to a boulevard along its banks.

John J. Enneking, Chairman
Gibbs H. Fowkes, Secretary
Larson B. Bidwell,
Park Commissioners.

1901

March 12th

Met at the house of W H Powers
4 Pond St. Hyde Park at 8 P.M.

Mr. Emmet and Mr. Powers present.
On Motion Welbur H Powers was chosen
Chairman and Lawson B Bidwell Secretary.
The records of the previous meeting were
read and approved. A general
discussion followed. Adjourned at
9 P.M.

L B Bidwell, Secty.

11

May 24th

Met at Studio of Mr. Emmet
present Messrs Emmet & Bidwell. On
representation that action as to abandonment
shown on plans 344 & 345 was urgent on account
of suits liable to be called at anytime and as it
appeared that even with these abandonments
there was still a good width of land before
taken on the basis of the Report we
voted to abandon the land and approved

the taking of the end of Osceola Street,
this was after a statement that we preferred
to have the matter passed upon by our
Chairman. The items above enumerated
were submitted to and signed by Mr. Powers.

L B Bidwell Secty.

1901 June 4th Met at the house of the
Chairman at 7.30 pm. All present
examined the plan 346 sent us for
approval for abandonment on Benj L.
Harris land. Voted to postpone
the matter until the Chairman could
see the Met. Commissioners and learn
the reasons for the abandonment.

Adjourned at 8.20 pm.

L B Bidwell. Secty.

1901

June 20th met at the house of the
Chairman at 7.30 pm Present Messrs
Powers and Innes - Voted to sign the
Concurrence for abandonment of parcel
shown on Metropolitan plans. Nos 349
and 351. Adjourned at 8.30 pm

The plans were examined and concurrence
signed by S B Bidwell June 21. 1901 and
papers returned to the Metropolitan Com.
June 22^d

S B Bidwell Secty.

" July 23^d Met at the Office of the Chairman
All present. Signed concurrence in a
sale of 14,000. feet of land bordering on
Waterloo Street to Joseph Warren as per
plan No. 356. Also concurred in a
taking of land on Mason Street of Isaac H
Tower of 3175 sq. feet. Plan No 355
Adjourned.

S B Bidwell Secty

1902 Jan'y 9th Met at the house of the
 Chairman at 7.30 PM. The minutes
 of the two previous meetings read and
 approved. Voted that the Park Com=
 mission of Hyde Park endorse the
 petition of the Park Commissioners of
 Boston in endeavoring to secure such
 legislation as will give board of Park
 Commissioners power to regulate the display
 of signs, posters and advertisements on
 or near public parks, parkways and
 boulevards in their charge.

Voted that we do not concur in the pro=
 posed abandonment by the Metropolitan
 Park Commission of two small strips of
 land, one of 22 square feet and one of
 80 square feet as shown on plan No 346
 for the reason that it appears that a
 portion of the land is within the limits
 of the river and ought not to be abandoned.
 Considered the matter of the Annual Report and
 adjourned at 8.50 PM. L B Bidwell Sec'y.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS.

On May 24th, we concurred in the taking of the end of Osceola street in the eastern part of the town, and on June 23d in a taking of 3,175 square feet of land on Mason street in the Readville district from Isaac F. Tower.

We have also approved of abandonments by the Metropolitan Park Commissioners of certain lands near Osceola street (see plans of Metropolitan Park Commission 344 and 345); also of one abandonment and two sales of land in the Readville district (see plans 349, 351 and 356). The sales were of land to be used for business purposes, and the Sturtevant Blower Company is now erecting buildings thereon.

We voted not to concur in the proposed abandonments by the Metropolitan Park Commission of two small strips of land, one of twenty-two square feet and the other of eighty square feet, near Fairmount Bridge, for the reason that a part of the land appears to be within the limits of the river. It appears to us that no one ought to be allowed to acquire any rights within the limits of the channel. We hope the Commission will more than keep the bed of this river. We urge that it will at least endeavor to eliminate the sources of pollution, and give humanity rather than germs a chance.

We voted to endorse the position of the Park Commission of Boston in their attempt to secure such legislation as will give the Boards of Park Commissioners power to

regulate the display of signs, posters and advertisements on or near public parks, park ways and boulevards in their charge.

In our last report we called attention to the appeal of the town of Brookline from the decision made by the Commissioners appointed to apportion among the cities and towns of the Metropolitan district the cost of the metropolitan parks and boulevards, and ventured to suggest that valuation and population will be the chief elements upon which the cost will necessarily be apportioned.

The Supreme Judicial Court sustained the appeal of the town of Brookline, but in the opinion written by our eminent Chief Justice appears this sentence: "It follows from what we have said that we should be slow to disturb an award except in the unlikely event of its appearing extravagant and unreasonable."

The Commissioners were required to give the reasons for their findings, but the court does not appear to be very anxious to revise them.

WILBUR H. POWERS, Chairman,
LAWSON B. BIDWELL, Secretary,
JOHN J. ENNEKING,

Park Commissioners of Hyde Park.

March 10th 1902

Met at Park Commissioners

Room 3 Union Block 7.30 P.M.

Organized by choosing Larson
B. Bidwell Chairman & John J. Eumeking
Secretary - whole board present -

a letter from a Mr. C. L. Pearson
was read in regard to a bill
before the Legislature, providing
that all public grounds and trees,
throughout the state, should be
under the control of the several
Park Commissions. No action taken.
Adjourned at 8 P.M.

John J. Eumeking Secy.

April 8th 1902

Met at Union Block 7.30 P.M.
All present. voted to concur
in the abandonment of land
shown on plan 374.

Mr Woodbury Secretary of The
Metropolitan Park Commission
came at our invitation and
explained that all the land
previously taken, was not
needed to control the street
mentioned in the plan -
voted, that the Secty notify
The Secty of The Camp Meigs
Improvement Society of our next
meeting, in answer to their request.

adjourned 8.30 P.M.,

John P. Cunningham Secty.

July 9th 1902

I met at Union Block 7:30 P.M.
all present -

Met Committee of Camp
Meigs association. voted to
mow the grass, Clean the walks,
manure the trees and furnish
four Park seats on the
Camp grounds -

Mr Candall and Mr. Rice
appeared for the association.
adjourned at 9 P.M.

John P. Cunningham Secy.

1903

Jan 19th 1903

Met at Union Block, 7:30 P.M.

All present -

Minutes of previous meeting read
and approved -

Four plans were presented by
the Met. Park Com. showing land
to be abandoned no. 370, 398, 399
& 400. Voted to concur on the
first three and signed
concurrence on parcels 370,
398 & 399 - Then voted to postpone
action on the land shown on
plan 400, near Fairmount station,
until the next meeting.

Adjourned 9:15 P.M.

John J. Emmerting Sec'y.

Jan 26th 1903

met at no 3 Union Block -
 all present - minutes of
 previous meeting read and approved.
 Plan no. 400 laid upon the table at
 a previous meeting taken up and
 discussed - majority of committee voted
 to concur in the abandonment -
 Chairman read Annual Report - which
 was discussed and stands approved
 adjourned 8.30

John J. Emmert Sec'y.

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARK COMMISSIONERS OF HYDE PARK.

In all that pertains to the duties of the Park Commissioners, this has been a quiet year, owing in part to the fact that a halt has been called on additional takings by the Metropolitan Park Commissioners.

Efforts have been made in former years by the Camp Meiggs Association to have more care taken of the historic grounds by the Park Commission, but as the only appropriation available for this purpose was small, and it was hoped it might be used for the purchase of some small tract more conveniently reached by a certain part of our citizens than Stony Brook or the Blue Hill Reservation, the only expenditure made previous to this year was for mounting four guns which were acquired and delivered on the ground by the Association. On July 9, 1902, on a request and conference with a committee of the Association, we agreed to clean up the walks, mow the grass, manure the trees and furnish four park seats, which has been done at an expenditure of forty dollars.

Abandonments of land taken by the Metropolitan Commission have been concurred in as follows:

April 8, 1902, abandonment, as shown on plan No. 374, of land taken to secure certain rights in a platted street. The Secretary of the Metropolitan Commission met us and explained that a part of the land taken was not necessary for this purpose.

January 19, 1903, abandonments were concurred in for a small piece of land taken from the Readville Trotting Park, as adjusted with them and shown on Plan No. 370.

Also as adjusted with the New York, New Haven and Hartford R. R. a small piece of land on each side of the railroad track near Glenwood avenue station, as shown on plans 398 and 399, and January 26 near the Fairmount station as shown on plan 400.

For the improvement of the Neponset River, in which we in common with all of our citizens have taken much interest, an act was approved June 28, 1902, Chapter 541, as follows:

"Section 1. The state board of health is hereby authorized and directed to prohibit the entrance or discharge of sewerage into any part of the Neponset river or its tributaries, and to prevent the entrance or discharge therein of every other substance which may be injurious to public health or may tend to create a public nuisance or to obstruct the flow of water, including all waste or refuse from any factory or other establishment where persons are employed, unless the owner thereof shall use the best practicable and reasonably available means to render such waste or refuse harmless.

"Section 2. The board shall consult and advise with any such owner at his request or of its own motion as to the best practicable and reasonably available means of rendering such waste or refuse harmless, having regard to the circumstances and requirements of the situation and to the industrial interests involved."

Section 3 indicates how the provisions shall be enforced.

This is in the right direction as far as it goes, but we think it should be supplemented by straightening the channel, thus shortening the distance and causing a more rapid flow and carry away much refuse which will be left on the Canton Meadows.

The Metropolitan Park and Boulevard assessments, made up in July, 1902, show a total for the year 1900 of \$517,923.17, on which the apportionment to Hyde Park was \$3,936.40, and a total for the year 1901 of \$570,897.13 with Hyde Park's apportionment \$4,338.24, and for the year 1902 a total of \$519,418.96, of which Hyde Park's apportionment was \$4,707.07.

To this last apportionment the sum of \$396.87 was added for interest on the apportionments for 1900 and 1901.

LAWSON B. BIDWELL, Chairman.
JOHN J. ENNEKING,
FRANK B. RICH.

Hyde Park March 10 1903

The first meeting of the Board of
Park Commissioners for 1903 was
held in their office Union Block
Present Mr Bidwell. Mr Rich
Absent Mr Enneking
Voted. That the records of the previous
meeting be not read

The Board organized for 1903
as follows

Chairman Mr Enneking

Secretary Mr Rich

Adjourned at 7.45 subject to the
call of Chairman

Frank B. Rich
Secretary.

Hyde Park, March 31, 1903.

Meeting at 7.45 in room Union Block
All members present.

Chairman Enneking presided
The records of the two previous
meetings Jan 26 and March 10
were read and approved.

The following vote was passed
unanimously:

Voted — "That the sum of sixty dollars
(\$60.) be appropriated for the purchase
and planting of shrubbery in Hamilton
Park on condition that the Readville
Improvement Association assume the
care and maintenance of the shrubbery
that the same be placed under the
supervision of the Association to the
satisfaction of this Board and that the
Secretary be instructed to notify the
Secretary of the special Committee."

Adjourned.

Frank B. Park
Secretary

Hyde Park, May 12, 1903.

Meeting held at 730 in Office Union Block
All members present.

Records of previous meeting were not
read.

Petition was received from E. McCall
and 22 others asking that the Park at
Readville be called, "The Camp Meigs
Memorial Park"

Voted, That so far as this Board has
the authority that the name is approved
and adopted.

Bills were approved of S. R. Mozley, Printing
2.00 and Geo. Liddell Plaster 60.00

Mr McLean appeared before the Board
in behalf of the Readville Association to
ask that a water service be put in
the Park No action taken

Adjourned

Frank B. Rich

Secretary

Hyde Park, June 15 1905.

Meeting held at 7.30 in office Union
Block. All members present
Records of previous meeting approved.
Mr John Woodbury Secretary of Metropolitan
Board Park Commission appeared before
the Board asking that we concur in
the abandonment on land shown
on plan #430. The Board so
voted

Adjourned

Frank B. Rich
Secretary

Hyde Park Oct. 7 1903

Meeting at 7.30 in office Union Block
 Present Mr Bidwell. Mr Rich,
 Absent Mr Enneking.

Records of previous meeting were
 read and approved

Plan # 435 with paper for the
 abandonment of this land was
 received from the Metropolitan Board
 Park Commissioner and it was voted
 to Concur. The members present
 signing same as a majority
 Adjourned

Frank B. Rich
 Secretary

Hyde Park Nov 30 1903.

Meeting at 7:30 in office Union Block
All the members Present
Records of previous meeting read
and approved.

Voted to Concur with the Metropolitan
Board of Park Commissioners in the
abandonment of land shown on plan #346
All members signed the same.

Adjourned

Frank B. Rich
Secretary

REPORT OF THE PARK COMMISSIONERS.

We herewith submit the report of the board as follows :

The property under our care is the same as in last report, namely, Camp Meigs Memorial Park in Readville.

At the request of a special committee from the Readville Improvement Association, a hearing was given them on the condition of the Park and the following vote was passed ;
“That the sum of sixty dollars be appropriated for the purchase and planting of shrubbery in Hamilton Park on condition that the Readville Association assume the care and maintenance of the shrubbery and that the same be placed under the supervision of the Association so that the work would be done to the satisfaction of this board.”

The above vote was carried out faithfully, greatly improving the appearance of the Park.

A petition was received from the Camp Meigs Memorial Association asking that the name of Hamilton Park be changed to “The Camp Meigs Memorial Park.” We voted “That so far as this board has the authority, the name is approved and adopted.”

On July 4th, public exercises were held to dedicate this Park under the above name. Mr. Augustus S. Lovell of Brookline delivered the historical address. During the year the board concurred with the Metropolitan Park Commission in the abandonment of three small parcels of land, namely, as shown on plan No. 430 at Wilton Street, plan No. 435 near Fairmount Avenue, and plan No. 346 near Station Street.

JOHN J. ENNEKING, Chairman,
FRANK B. RICH, Secretary,
LAWSON B. BIDWELL,

Park Commissioners.

Petition, Apr. 30, 1902.

Readville Residents &

Camp Meigs Memorial Ass.

Suggesting name for
Camp Meigs.

To the Honorable Board of
Park Commissioners
Hyde Park, Mass

We the undersigned, residents
of Readville and representatives
of the Camp Meigs Memorial
Association respectfully request
that the Park at Readville-here-
tofore dedicated to public use as
a memorial to the soldiers who
camped there during the war
of the rebellion and who received
their discharge from the service
at this place, - be named "The
Camp Meigs Memorial Park", in
order that its true historical
significance may be preserved
and perpetuated

April 20, 1903

E. M. Condit	Benj. M. Henry.
F. J. Eccles	Rud. W. Wright
W. H. Sawtelle	Johns McLean.
Chas. F. Paine	George L. Rice
James H. O'Brien	Geo. J. Cabot
<u>Victor M. Weil</u>	<u>C. E. Ham</u>
<u>Alfred Cortell</u>	Frank B. Condit
Isiah M. Titon	E. J. Alden
Hubert T. Leven	F. E. Gray
<u>Ph. Patterson</u>	<u>H. B. Jones</u>
Geo S. Feuner	Albert G. Madans
	Geo. W. M. Brown

DIRECTORS

J. R. CORTHELL, President
14 Hamilton Street
H. E. ASTLEY, Vic-Pres't
153 Readville Street
Dr. S. T. ELLIOTT, Treas.
947 Hyde Park Avenue
W. J. W. WHEELER, Clerk
66 Prescott Street
ALBERT DAVENPORT, Fin. Sec'y
4 Lakeside Avenue

Readville Improvement Association



DIRECTORS

E. S. ALDEN
CALVIN H. LEE
RICHARD W. WRIGHT
GEORGE S. CABOT
H. A. PELLETT
F. L. GEORGE

Readville June 20 1903

Mr. J. J. Cunningham
Dear Sir

The joint committee of the Readville Improvement Assn. and the Camp Meigs Memorial Assn. having in charge the dedication of Camp Meigs Memorial Park on July 4th - cordially invite you and your associates on the Board of Park Commissioners to be present on that occasion.

There will be a band concert at 2.30 P.M. the formal dedicatory services beginning at 3.30. Genl. Carrington is to preside. An original poem by Benj. Mc Keady will be read.

The address will be given by Mr. Augustus S. Lovett of Brookline.

I am

Yours very truly

J. R. Cortwell

Readville Impr. Assn.

June 20. 1903

Inviting Hyde Park Comm.
to attend dedicatory exercises
for Camp Meigs Memorial Park
July 4. 1903

Readville, Mass., June 23, 1904.

The Park Committee have acted in conjunction with the Committee on Water Supply in considering the matter referred to them at the last meeting.

After a conference with the Park Commissioners the following letter was received:--

Hyde Park June 23, 1904

"Mr. John S. McLean,

Dear Sir:--

The petition of the Readville Improvement Assn. and Camp Meiggs Memorial Association was considered and favorably voted upon by the Hyde Park Commission. It was voted that one hundred dollars be appropriated out of the funds in their hands and placed at the disposition of the following gentlemen of the Association, viz. Mr. John S. McLean, Mr. Elliott, and Mr. Cundal, that amount to be expended by them to improve and beautify C.M.'s Memorial Park.

Yours very truly,

John J. Enneking, Secty."

Under the authority of this letter, the committee named, together with the Park Committee and Committee on Water Supply, an arrangement was made with the Hyde Park Water Co. so that the pipe has been laid from the main on Hyde Park Ave., the work having been at cost by the Water Co.

The joint Committees held a meeting at the Park on June 17th., and decided the following improvements should receive their first attention:--

(1) Rebuilding the walks and setting posts at Park entrance to prevent teams driving through.

(2) In regard to plowing up and grading and seeding, it is the opinion of the Committee that this work should be done later in the season, and it is the intention of your Committee to perform such portion of this work as the unexpended amount of appropriation will permit.

(3) In furtherance of our desire to rebuild the walks, application was made to the Selectmen for twenty cubic yards of crushed stone and in reply to our request the following letter was received:--

Hyde Park Mass., June 22, 1904.

"H.E.Astley, Esq.

Hyde Park, Mass.

Dear Sir:-- At a meeting of the Board held this day it was voted;-- "That there is held at the stone crusher an amount of stone (Crushed), not to exceed twenty (20) cubic yards, same to be delivered to the Park Commissioners or their order for the purpose of repairing Camp Meigs".

Yours very respectfully,

H.J. West,

Secretary."

The combined Committees desire to express their thanks to the Park Commissioners, The Selectmen and the Hyde Park Water Company, for the very courteous manner in which they have acceded to our requests.

H.E. Astley:
Chairman.
Park Comm

John S. McLean
Chairman Water Supply Co.

(Crushed) not to exceed twenty (20) cubic yards, same to be delivered
voted:-- That there is held at the stone crusher an amount of stone
Dear Sir:-- At a meeting of the Board held this day it was
Hade Park, Mass.

H. E. Aspley, Esq.

Hade Park Mass., June 28, 1904.

and in reply to our request the following letter was received:--
was made to the Selectmen for twenty cubic yards of crushed stone
(3) in furtherance of our desire to rebuild the walks, application

Hyde Park March 8th 1904
 First meeting of the board of
 Park Commissioners for 1904 was
 held in their office Union Block
 at 8 o'clock.

Present Mr. Bidwell Mr.
 Rich & Mr Emmet -
 2 Records read and approved.

- 1 Organized by choosing
 Larso B. Bidwell Chairman
 & John J. Emmet Secretary -
 Mr Frank B. Rich member
 of this Board tendered his
 resignation. It was accepted.
 a notice was sent to the
 Board of Selectmen of the
 the vacancy created in our
 Board. A notice was
 received from the Selectmen
 that a joint meeting would
 be held Monday Evening the 21st
 of this month, this Board to

meet with them to fill the
vacancy -

adourned 9 P.m.

John J. Cuneoing -
Secty.

March 21st 1904 - 8 P.m.

Met at Select men's rooms.
in convention with them to
fill a vacancy in our board
made by the resignation of
Mr Frank B. Rich.

Mr Stillman E. Merrill was elected
to fill that vacancy -

John J. Cuneoing
Secty.

April 11th 1904 8. P. M.

Met at Office Union Bldg.
minutes of last meeting read
and approved. Mr. [illegible]

Mr. Merrill & Mr. Cuneoing present

at a meeting of the legal voters
 of Hyde Park held March 30th 1869
 it was voted that the land set
 forth in article 26 be used as a
 public play ground, and that the
 said land be placed under the
 control of the H. P. Park Commissioners
 for such purposes and that this
 Commission be directed to lay out
 the same as a public play ground
 (Base Ball Ground) that the cost of the
 same be paid from the funds
 accredited to said Commission

Plans for the above mentioned
 play ground were discussed
 with the Manager of the Hyde
 Park High School Team Robert
 Davie (who, with others, brought
 this matter before the town)

adjourning 8.35 P. M.

John J. Emmet
 Secy.

Hyde Park May 3^d 1904
7.30 P.M.

Met at office Union Block
Mr. Bidwell Mr. Herrell &
Mr. Emebury present.

Plans for Playground and
estimates for grading the
same discussed -

It was moved and seconded
and voted that Mr. Bidwell be
authorized to make all
contracts for laying out
playground according to
plan - for irregular grading &c.

also that Mr. B. make
arrangements for fencing
grounds -

A communication from the City
of Boston Board of Commissioners
of the Dept. of Parks received by
the Selectmen and handed
over to our Board discussed

and put on file.

It was voted to authorize Mr Bidwell to make contracts for grading the land, placed in our care, by a vote of the town.

adjourned 9.15
John J. Eumeking Secy.

June 6th 1904

Meeting. 7.30 Union Block -

Mr. Bidwell, Sewell & Eumeking present.
Records read and approved.

A committee from The Readville Improvement & Camp Meaggs men's Park association - Mr John McLean and Mr. Perkins, appeared before this board asking for an appropriation of one hundred dollars, to be expended on the above Park for water pipes, hose &c. to better develop the beauty of the place.

It was moved by Mr. Sewell and seconded by Mr. Eumeking that the aid be

appropriated out of the funds
 in the hands of our board -
 but to be placed in the hands
 of a committee of three members
 of the above associations Mr John D.
 McLean Mr. Elliot & Mr. Candler,
 to be expended on the grounds,
 in their judgment to the best
 advantage.

adjourned 8.45
 John J. Eumeking Secy.

July 14th 1904
 8.30 a.m. Playground
 Mr. Bidwell & Eumeking present.
 Met here by appointment
 Mr Robert Blake, who
 pointed out to us that our
 board had destroyed his st.
 across the Town land on which
 he held a claim, granted him
 by a former board of Selectmen.

as the land belongs to the town, we
referred him to the present board of
Selectmen - and adjourned 9:30 a.m.
John J. Emsbury Secy.

Aug. 8th 1904

meeting - 7:30 Union Block

Present - Mr. Bidwell, Newell & Emsbury
voted to Grant liberty to the

Camp Meigs Memorial Park associa-
tion, to close the Hamilton St.
entrance of the above association,
against crossing of Carriages -

On acct. of the appropriation
of one hundred dollars made to
improve and beautify that Park,
we approve the following bills:
Walworth Manufacturing Comp'y

Galvanize, washer & expressage \$13.96

Revere Rubber Comp'y. Horse fittings
and Express \$12.60

Hyde Park Water Co. Service and

Labor - adjourned 9:50 10.75

John J. Emsbury Secy.

Sep. 22^d 1904

Meeting 7.30. Union Block
Present: Bidwell, Newell & Emmet King.
also Mr. Norris Engineer of Play-
ground by appointment, to
meet Mr. Robert Davie to

discuss the plans of play ground.

This meeting was called in consequence of a
letter received by the Chairman Sept. 14th saying
that the field constructed at the head of
Sunnyside St. was in its present condition
useless, as it was too small and that it
was to be 450 x 225 ft. instead of 360 x 90

The Chairman produced a brown paper
plan which Mr. Davie admitted was
the one he furnished (The town on which appropriation
was based &c.)

to be worked to laid off in 30 ft. squares -
making 360 x 90 ft. - Robert Davie could
not understand how he had made such
a mistake - He agreed to do any thing &
everything he could to get the High School
boys to clear off the stones and use the

Hyde Park, Mass., APR 7 1904

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At a meeting of the legal voters
of Hyde Park Mass. held March 30th
1904. it was (under article 26th)
Voted "that the land set forth in this
article 26. be used as a public play
ground and that the said land be
placed under the control of the Park
Commissioners for such purposes, and
that the Park Commissioners be
directed to lay out the same as a
public play ground and that the cost
of the same be paid from funds now
accrued to said Park Commissioners."

It should have been above \$3000.00
dently a typographical error and making a
saving in appropriations this year of about
\$35,000, which gives promise of a tax rate
of about \$17 per \$1000.

Under article 26, after a vigorous speech
by David W. Murray, Esq., the meeting
voted to use the six acres of ground at the
head of Sunnyside street, owned by the
town, as a public play ground, and it was
voted to expend \$700, to be taken from
funds in the hands of the park commis-
sioners.

Attest

Harry B. Terry
Town Clerk.

ART. 26. To see what action the town will take concerning the use as a public play-ground, or public park, of the six acres of land located at the head of Sunnyside Street and owned by the town, and what sum of money the town will authorize its Park Commissioners to expend in improvements thereon.

Town Clerk

April 7, 1904

Authority to utilize land
at head of Sunnyside, L.
as a playground, etc.

field for foot ball, as it was of the
 the standard size for that game, which
 he but so far not anything has been
 accomplished - So little interest was
 shown in the matter by the boys, that
 it was not judged best to expend
 more money there, without further
 instruction by the town -

Adjourned 830 p.m.
 John P. Emerting - Sec'y.

~~June 10th 1905~~
~~Meeting 9.00~~

Health report.

Report of the Park Commissioners.

One of our members, Frank B. Rich, elected Park Commissioner in 1902, was, at the last town meeting for the election of officers, made a member of the Board of Selectmen and understanding that he could not legally hold both offices, resigned from the Park Board March 8, 1904.

As required by Chapter 336 of the Acts and Resolves of the General Court in the year 1891, notice was immediately given by the two remaining members of the board to the Board of Selectmen that there was a vacancy in our board and that we were ready to meet with them in joint session to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

The joint session was held March 21, 1904, and Stillman E. Newell was chosen as the third member of the Park Board.

This board has always had and expressed a lively interest in the purification of the Neponset River and in our Ninth Annual Report quoted Sections 1 and 2 and mentioned number 3, Chapter 541, of an act approved June 28, 1902. Under this act the State Board of Health has during the past year given notice to the authorities of the town of Norwood and the owners of the tannery in that town to discontinue the discharge of unpurified sewerage and waste into the river after July 1, 1905. This is not only a very important but a very difficult matter to accomplish and necessarily required a very careful study. Although the odor from the stream during some of the warm days last summer was quite marked, we know that many of the small discharges of foul matter into the stream were cut off.

March 30, 1904, the town voted as follows:

That the land set forth in Article 26 be used as a public play-ground, and that the said land be placed under the control of the Park Commissioners for such purposes, and that the Park Commissioners be directed to lay out the same as a public play-ground, and that the cost of the same be paid from funds now accredited to said Park Commissioners.

This land belonging to the town comprised about six acres at the head of Sunnyside street. The ground was quite rough and largely hard pan, making it expensive to grade and no use whatever as a play-ground without grading. It was generally understood that the sum of seven hundred dollars would pay for grading the lot and this was based on a plan showing a field laid off in thirty feet squares of one hundred and eighty feet wide by three hundred and sixty feet long. The plan was made and handed to the commission to work upon by players of base ball, who were responsible for getting the vote passed. Under competitive bids, the work was awarded to an outside contractor who employed our townsmen in doing nearly all the work, and it was only when the work was nearly done that the size of the field was questioned, and the commissioners, none of whom were ball players, learned that one hundred and eighty by three hundred and sixty feet was the standard size of a foot ball field, but not large enough for the game of base ball. Having expended a sum equal to the generally understood cost and with very little interest shown in the matter by the young men and finding that to fit the ground for football by clearing up the surface and loaming and sowing grass would largely increase the expenditure, even with the mandatory vote passed, the commissioners decided to expend no more upon it without further instruction from the town.

The amount expended has been: For Engineering, \$25.00; Grading, \$700.00.

Doubtless the mover and advocate of this vote had been led to believe that the town lot was suitable and could be graded for about the sum of seven hundred dollars to make a good and sufficient ball ground, when in fact the balance of the appropriation on which the Park Commission could draw would not have sufficed by a considerable amount to properly grade and finish a base ball ground. The ground as graded would make a fine site for a hospital or other building for benevolent purposes.

Camp Meigs. In 1893 an appropriation of sixty dollars was made for the purchase of shrubbery for Camp Meigs. During that year those living near cared for and watered the plants at a great inconvenience, and the Hyde Park Water Company, having agreed to furnish the water for them without charge, an appropriation was made by the Board of one hundred dollars for the purchase of pipe and hose and for cleaning up the paths, trimming the grass, and small rustic seats. Of this appropriation the sum of \$75.61 has been expended.

LAWSON B. BIDWELL,
STILLMAN E. NEWELL,
JOHN J. ENNEKING.

Park Commissioners.

1905

10 am

Hyde Park March 11th 1905

First meeting of the Board of Hyde Park
Park Commissioners was held at
The office of the Chairman Lamson B
Bidwell. Present Mr Bidwell

Mr. Stillman E. Jewell & J. J. Emmet

Organized by ~~Chairman~~ Lamson
B. Bidwell Chairman and
John J. Emmet Secretary -

adjourned 10.30 am
John J. Emmet Secy.

1905

May 10

Met at Union Block 8 P.M.

all present

Minutes of previous meeting read
and approved - voted that the
Readville Improvement Association's "Keep
off of the Grass" request, be referred
to its Chairman. Messrs S. T. Elliot
E. M. Cundat & Mr. McLean of the above
association made application

for an appropriation of 25 dollars
in addition to a former appropriation
of 100 dollars, to complete work
commenced under last appropriation.
The application was granted.

adjourned 8 P.m.
John J. Eumeking Secy.

June 5th 1905
meeting, 9 a.m. at office of Chairman.
Present. Mr. Bidwell Newell
Eumeking - meeting called
to examine abandonment plan

Nov. 7th 1905 Meeting 7:30 P.m. Present Mr Bidwell,
Newell. Eumeking. met at the
request of Selectman Frank who had something
important to bring before the board - not
making his appearance in due time the board
adjourned at 8:00 11 Eumeking Secy.

December 20.th 1905

Meeting 7.30 P.m. Union Block.
Present Bidwell, Newell, Eumeking.

Signed Concurrence in deed
from The Metropolitan Commissioners
to Catharine & O'Brien of land
south of Milton road a little
west of Paul's bridge $1\frac{64}{100}$ acres
in exchange for other land on
north of Milton st. plan 506 -

adjourned

Wm. P. Eumeking.
Secy

Dec 27th 1905

Meeting, 7.30 P.m. Union Block.
Mr. Bidwell Newell & Eumeking present.
Signed Concurrence in deed from The Metropolitan
Park Commissioners to The Town of Ryde Park
of the small piece of land 879 square feet east
of Cleveland's premises for an approach
to the new fair mound approach for eliminating
grade crossing -

adjourned 8.30 P.m.

Wm. P. Eumeking. Secy.

1906

Feb 5th

Met. at Union Block 7.30 P.m.
 Present Bidwell, Newell, Emet King.
 Records of previous meeting read & approved
 at Town meeting Jan 31st 1906 it was
 voted under Art. 5th "To designate or
 appoint a public officer or board to
 act for the town under the provision
 of Section 4 Chapter 381 of the acts
 of the Legislature for the year 1905,
 the same being an act for
 suppressing the Gypsy & Brown
 Tail Moths - Our Board was appointed.
 Mr. Harry G. Heigble Local Supt.
 for the suppression of Gypsy Moths
 presented a bill for labor dated
 Jan 27th 1906 amt. \$189.96 -
 another dated Feb. 3rd 1906 amt. \$47.00
 Both were approved -

adjourned 8.30 P.m.

John J. Emet King Secy.

1906

Feb. 13th Met at Union Block 7.30 P.m.

Present Bidwell, Newell, Emmet King -

Records of previous meeting read & approved

Annual report read discussed & approved -

Sup't. Higbee's annual report read & approved

This Gypsy and Brown-tail moth was
about work carried on under the Select-
men up to Jan 27th 1906 - a
very thorough and interesting report.

Adjourned 9.10 P.m.

John J. Emmet King Secy.

Feb. 19th Met at Union Block 7.30 P.m.

Present Bidwell Newell Emmet King -

Records read and approved -

Gypsy Moth bill for week ending Feb. 10th

amt. 46.60 - Approved

Gypsy Moth bill dated Feb. 19-1906

amt. 40.63 - approved -

Adjourned 8.30

John J. Emmet King Secy.

12⁴⁵ Report of the Park Commissioners.

During the year 1905 there have been but few months requiring action by the Park Commission.

Of money appropriated in 1904 for the care of Camp Meigs, there was an unexpended balance of \$24.39. A further appropriation of \$25.00 was made in May, 1905, to be expended on the Camp ground by the Readville Improvement Association, for which no bills have yet been rendered.

We have signed concurrences to the following deeds by the Metropolitan Commissioners:

June 5th to the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad Company for the supports to the Glenwood Avenue foot bridge.

December 20th to Catherine E. O'Brien

a land near Paul's Bridge, south of Milton Street, one and one sixty-fourth acres in exchange for other land on the north of the same street, as shown on plan No. 506.

December 27th, to the town of Hyde Park, of eight hundred and seventy-nine square feet of land, for the approach for the elimination of the Fairmount Avenue grade crossing.

Early in July a letter with copies of the Acts of the Legislature relating to the Gypsy Moths was received by this Commission from the State Superintendent for their suppression, saying that the moths had been found on Fairmount Avenue in our town. He had already taken prompt action by sending his own men, who had experience and

appliances, to spray the trees in that vicinity. The communication was sent to us, as he supposed the trees on the public land were in our care. We notified him at once, that with the exception of a few on Camp Meigs, they were in the care of the Tree Warden, to whom we had forwarded his communication.

At the suggestion of the State Superintendent, the Selectmen appointed Harry G. Higbee local superintendent, whose report is appended.

At the town meeting January 31st, 1906, under Article IV of the warrant, an appropriation of twelve hundred dollars was made, to pay bills for extermination incurred to date and for carrying on the work until the March, 1906, appropriation meeting.

Under Article v, the Board of Park Commissioners was appointed to act for the town in the suppression of the gypsy and horn-tail moths. There is no question as to the necessity of a vigorous prosecution of the work already well under way, or of the seriousness of the matter, for it means not only a very considerable and constant expense, but also danger of losing many of our trees, which add so much to the beauty of our town, and, if unchecked, a depreciation in the value of our real estate.

The purification of the Neponseth River is still being agitated, and a large amount of work has been done in constructing settling basins at Winslow's, in the town of Norwood.

We understand that the

town is again actively considering plans for a sewerage system.

Lawson B. Bidwell, Chairman
 John J. Enneking, Secretary,
 Stillman E. Jewell,
 Park Commissioners,

Report of Gyfsey and Brown-tail Moth Work.

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

Gentlemen: The following is an outline of the gyfsey moth work as carried on in this town from the time the pests were first discovered here to January 31, 1906.

In the early part of July, 1905, gyfsey moths were discovered on Fairmount Avenue and reported

by me to the State Superintendent. An inspection of that vicinity was then made, in company with a representative from the state office, resulting in the burlesping of about one hundred and thirty trees in the immediate vicinity. These trees were looked after by me during the caterpillar season under the direction of the State Superintendent. Some spraying was also done at that time, and so effectual was this work, that no traces from this colony have since been found.

Shortly after this, the Selectmen were requested by Mr. Kirkland, the State Superintendent, to appoint some one to take charge of the work here, and in accordance with this request, I was appointed local superintendent by them in October.

I then started with a small force of men, to make a systematic investigation of the town to ascertain to what extent it was infested. It has been found to be much more seriously infested than was supposed; a number of bad colonies of gypsy moths being located, and brown-tails being found over the entire section.

The owners of all infested property were notified according to the law, and required to have their places cleared of the moths within a specified time.

At the expiration of this time, we inspected all these infested properties, being required by law to do the work on all properties not already cleared, also doing the work on the town property. The

work has been carried on under the supervision of the State Agent, Wm. Frank A. Bates, to whom a weekly report has been made.

A weekly report has also been given to the Selectmen, keeping them informed of the exact condition of affairs throughout the winter.

The cost of the work to date has been \$21.92.

At the town meeting held January 31, by vote of the people, the oversight of this work was transferred from the Selectmen to your board. At this time an appropriation of \$1,200.00 was made for the work, \$200.00 of this amount being designated for the payment of bills already due, and the remaining \$1,000.00 for the carrying on of the work.

up to the annual appropriation meeting in March, 1906.

The winter work is now being pushed rapidly, that it may be completed before the eggs hatch in the spring, as it is at this season that the most effectual results may be accomplished.

There will, of course, be much work to be done through the caterpillar season, though on different lines than the present work. It is very important that property owners familiarize themselves with the proper methods of fighting these moths, as it is only through the co-operation of all that we can hope to successfully combat them.

It has been clearly shown in other towns what terrible

garages these insects will
commit, if left undisturbed,
and with what difficulty and
expense they are eradicated after
having once obtained a foothold.
"Eternal vigilance" should be
our motto in this work and
there seems to be no reason
why our town may not be
kept practically free from these
pests by the expenditure of a
comparatively small sum each
year.

Respectfully submitted,
Harry G. Higbee,
Local Superintendent.

1906

March 17 Met at Union Block. present Newell
and Bidwell. Organized by choosing
J J Emmeking Chairman + L B Bidwell
Secy. Went over the needed Appropri-
ations for the Twp. moth work with
Local Supt. Harry G Higbee. for the
insuring year and thought we ought
to ask for \$2500. App. bill of expenses
for a month \$9.55 and for time 21.75 and
for Sprayer 22.50. Adjourned at 9.30 pm
and Mr Newell then saw the Chairman
of the Select men who said the budget had
been made up and with \$1500. At the
Appropriation meeting Mr. Newell moved
it be made \$2000. which was carried

L B Bidwell

Secty.

Apr. 2^d met at Union Block. Present Smuckling
 Newell & Bidwell. Record of last meeting
 read and approved. Messrs Canollah, Elliott,
 Bleither and George of Keadville were present
 and asked to have say one half day. Signs
 erected on Camp Meigs to keep people from
 crossing where there were no paths. Messrs
 Smuckling and George were made a Committee
 to determine on the signs. They also asked to
 have the grass cut say 4 times in the
 season and to have missing plants
 replaced, and play ground leveled, and
 the Keadville Gentlemen are to give us the
 amount of money required. App. 2^d of
 month bill for labor to mar. 31 - \$36.75
 Adjourned at 8.45 pm.

L B Bidwell
 Secty.

1906

May 7. Met at Union Block. present Emmet
Newell & Bidwell. Voted to appropriate
for Camp Meigs 75. It was suggested
that the Secretary ascertain what legal
right we had to prevent crossing Camp
Meigs at any place without regard to the
paths. Mr. Farnsworth's opinion was that
we had such authority under existing
law. Adjourned at 8.30 P.M.

L B Bidwell Secy.

July 7. Mr. Emmet & Self signed concurrence
in a deed to the N.Y. & H.V. R.R. Co.
for a strip 20' wide and about 60' long
north of Fairmount Station. Mr. Newell
being away on vacation.

L B Bidwell Secy.

1906

Sept-7 Met at Union Block at 7.45 pm. Mr. Higbee wanted us to do the same as Brookline & Milton are doing i.e. instead of keeping account with each owner and charging them for the work done on their land as per the act, to do this outside work and charge the whole to the town and let the tax list cover the entire expense. I objected as it was not according to the act which was specific, and asked Higbee to see if Mr. Kirtland who advised it, had any legal advice on the matter. We voted to ask at the next town meeting for \$1500 - needed to carry the gipsy work along until the March 1907 meeting as we had in six months expended \$2000 - and the winter work would be even more expensive. Adjourned 9 Pm.

L. B. Bissell
Secy.

1906

Oct 5

met at Union block. present Messrs Bidwell & Newell. Brought up the matter of Circulars to notify all Real Estate holders. App J. H. Boyntons bill for pulling up haliards at Camp Meigs for \$5 - also C. H. Batchelder for furnishing haliards \$2.29 Mr. Newell self saw Chairman of Select men about the Circulars and he found one act which would allow of our issuing the Circular and as this suited the Select men we were to issue it but later it was found that the act quoted on back of Circular would conflict we asked them to issue it. Real Estate holders about 2650. Concluded to order 3500 The Town Clerk returns the 13th and a town meeting will be held Oct 31 or Nov. 14 and we are to notify him 7 days before the meeting as the App. asked for will be over 1000 -

Adjourned at 8.20 pm.

Lanson B Bidwell Secy

1906

Nov. 5

Met at Union Block. All present
Signed concurrence in sale of land on
Bridge St. to the town of Hyde Park.

Harry Higbee showed his maps which showed
all the colonies of Geesey Mathers to date
voted to Authorize the Chairman to notify
the Select men of the damage done to
shade tree on Camp Meigs by the Electric
Light men. Adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Lamson B. Beechell Secy

Dec 24

Met at Union Block all present. Look up
the matter of the tree at Camp Meigs
and voted that the secretary write the
Select men that as they gave the location
for the wires which led to the trouble
they should dispose of the matter
Adjourned at 8:30 pm

Lamson B. Beechell Secy

1907

Feb 5

Met at Union Block - present Mr. Emmet King and Bidwell. Talked over the tree matter at Camp Meigs and Mr. Emmet King agreed to see Mr. Elliott and talk it over with him before we take further action. Land at corner of Harvard and Hyde Park Avenues spoken of also Mary Rock near there owned by Mr. Fairbairn who wants for rent - 57,500 sq. ft. \$5000 and will subscribe \$300 towards the purchase. Adjourned at - 8:40 pm.

Lawson & Bidwell Secy

Feb 28

Met at Union Block. All present.

A communication was received from the Secy of the Readville Association asking whether we as a Park Com. were going to take any action towards prosecuting the Electric Light Co. for mutilating tree at Camp Meigs. Mr. Emmet King was made a committee to ask the Select men

Feb 28. 1907

to get the opinion of the Town Council as to whose jurisdiction a tree was under in Irving St. before we took further action. L B Bidwell was made a Committee to attend to the insertion in the Town Warrant of an article, "to see what action the town will take as to collecting the amounts for Gypsy work on land of private individuals. The Chairman was to suggest to the Citizens living near Small Marys Rock to take the initiative in petition for an article in town Warrant for purchase of Marys Rock. Adjourned 8:45 pm.

L B Bidwell Secy

Thirteenth Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners

Apart from the Gypsy Moth extermination work there have been but few matters which have come before this Commission during the year 1906.

In July we concurred with the Metropolitan Park Commission in an abandonment to the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company of a strip of land near Fairmount Station, twenty feet wide and about six hundred and seven feet long, and in November, in sale of land on Bridge Street to the Town of Hyde Park.

For Camp Weigs for cutting grass, trimming walks, replacing shrubs, painting flagstaff and

replacing halcyons we have appropriated seventy-five dollars, and in addition have offered bills for seven dollars and twenty-nine cents.

For the Gypsy Moth extermination the town has appropriated the following sums:

January - - - - -	\$1,200.00
March - - - - -	2,000.00
December - - - - -	1,500.00
Total - - - - -	\$4,700.00

The expenditures have been:

On land of town -	\$1,139.65
On private land -	271.77
	\$3,411.42
Balance unexpended -	\$1,288.58

Of the amount expended on private lands, that on the

land of the Henry S. Grew
Estate

was -----	\$159.00
and on other private lands ---	<u>112.77</u>
Total	\$271.77

Except on land of the Henry S. Grew Estate, the charges were small and the average on the whole was but twenty-three cents and made it necessary to keep 491 accounts.

The rendering and collecting of all these accounts would be in accordance with Section 6 of the Acts of May 8, 1905, which is as follows:

"The Mayor of every city and the Selectmen of every town shall, on or before the first day of November in each year, and at such other times as he or they

shall see fit, or as the State Superintendent may order, cause a notice to be sent to the owner or owners, so far as can be ascertained, of every parcel of land therein which is infested with said moths; or, if such notification appears to be impracticable, then by posting such notice on said parcels of land, requiring that the eggs, pupae and nests of said moths shall be destroyed within a time specified in the notice.

"When, in the opinion of the mayor or selectmen, the cost of destroying such eggs, pupae and nests in lands contiguous and held under one ownership in a city or town shall exceed one half of one per cent. of the

assessed value of said lands, then a part of said premises on which said eggs, pupae or nests shall be destroyed, may be designated in such notice, and such requirement shall not apply to the remainder of said premises. The mayor or selectmen may designate the manner in which such work shall be done, but all work done under this section shall be subject to the approval of the state superintendent.

"If the owner or owners shall fail to destroy such eggs, pupae or nests in accordance with the requirements of the said notice, then the city or town acting by the public officer or board of such city or town designated or appointed as aforesaid, shall subject to the approval of said

superintendent, destroy the same, and the amount actually expended thereon, not exceeding one half of one per cent. of the assessed valuation of said lands, as heretofore specified in this section, shall be assessed upon the said lands; and such an amount in addition as shall be required shall be apportioned between the city or town and the Commonwealth in accordance with the provisions of section four of this act. The amount to be assessed upon private estates as herein provided shall be assessed and collected, and shall be a lien on said estate in the same manner and with the same effect as is provided in

the case of assessments for street watering."

The State Agent advises in our case the abandonment of these charges for private estates, saying the towns of Brookline and Milton have so done and it seems to us desirable to do so as the cost of clerk work and collecting will be greatly reduced.

The largest amount is on the Grew woods which have by the owner been thrown open for some time to the public, and the cost of collecting the balance will be in excess of receipts.

It is evident that with any areas in our town where there are trees and which are owned by private individuals

the work will necessarily fall upon our trained force who are expert in finding the nests and have the necessary tools for creosoting or removing them, and as a town we are vitally interested in preserving the trees on the private as well as public lands.

The report of the superintendent appended hereto gives a full account of the work for the current year.

John J. Enneking, Chairman.
Lawson B. Bidwell, Secretary.
Stillman E. Jewell.

Park Commissioners of
Hyde Park.

Hyde Park, Mass. Feb. 1, 1907.

To the Board of Park Commissioners,

Gentlemen: I submit herewith my report on the suppression of the gypsy and brown-tail moths from Jan. 31, 1906, to Jan. 31, 1907.

During the past year this work has been pushed vigorously; an attempt being made to rid the town as much as possible of these pests before they secured a strong foothold here.

About one hundred and twenty-five colonies of the gypsy moth were located during last winter's inspection, ninety-two being in the residential section and the remaining thirty-three in Grew's Woods.

These colonies were all burlapped at the opening of the larval season, and carefully watched throughout the summer. The street trees, numbering about twenty-five hundred, were also burlapped, and this later proved to be a very valuable investment, leading to the discovery of a number of new colonies which would not otherwise have been found. Larvae were also found in one hundred and twelve places along the streets, showing the value of these burlaps in picking up larvae accidentally transported from other towns and carried from place to place on vehicles.

About ten thousand trees were burlapped throughout the

town, and thirteen thousand, one hundred and twenty-five larvae were destroyed under these burlaps during the summer. Spraying with arsenate of lead and burning with an oil burning machine were found necessary in a few cases.

About two-thirds of the residential colonies of last year seem to have been exterminated, but our town is in a particularly bad location to become reinfested from other sources. Especially is this so regarding Boston and cities and towns to the north of us. About one hundred new colonies, mostly of single clusters, however, have been located during this winter's inspection.

and are mostly traceable to being brought in from other towns.

Grew's Woods still seem to present the most serious problem, as the infestation here threatens a large territory. There is also quite a bad colony at the Boston line near Calvary Cemetery. Both these places will be thoroughly scouted this winter and well taken care of next summer. The entire town, both woodland and residential, is being thoroughly scouted this winter and an effort will be made to have worthless patches of shrubbery and decayed trees, especially near infested places, cut and burned, and hollows in old

trees which make harboring places for these insects, stopped up.

An improvement in this line has already been noted, showing the increased interest of the owners in their orchards and shade trees, and a neater appearance generally throughout the town.

Throughout the spring months, I had seven men employed, while the clearing out work in the woods was necessary, and through the summer season have had two men besides my self. I now have three regular inspectors, and with the exception of a little additional help in the busy spring season, I think we will be

able to handle the work with this small force.

Considerably more burlapping will be necessary this year than last. The street trees should all be burlapped again this coming season, and I would advise that all property owners as far as possible throughout the town burlap their trees this year, watching the burlaps and destroying any larvæ (or caterpillars) found under them. The campaign against these pests must be pressed vigorously this year if we would follow up the good work accomplished last year and make it count for the north.

I have confined this

report mostly to the gypsy moth, as this is the most serious problem. The brown-tails were found scattered over the whole town last year, about two thousand of the winter webs being cut and burned. This work was accomplished so thoroughly that no damage whatsoever was done by these moths throughout the summer, and only a few larval were found. The winter webs, or nests, have been found this winter in far less numbers than last year, and it is a much easier problem to keep these moths under control if the property owners will co-operate in the work.

I wish to again urge that all property owners and

tenants familiarize themselves with these pests, that they may report at once any new infestation by the moths, and in other ways assist in the work, by keeping their own places as clean and free from them as possible.

Information will be gladly given at any time from either this or the state office, and the various bulletins issued on the subject will be sent free on request. As a help along this line, I have on exhibition in one of the store windows, a complete line of specimens showing the various stages and workings of these moths. This seemed to be of great assistance to many.

This work has all been carried on under state supervision, and I have submitted a detailed report of the year's work, accompanied by two maps, to State Agent F. A. Bates in charge of this division. His report to the state superintendent was very complimentary to our work here, and it has been gratifying to note that we have been credited with accomplishing more and better work for the money expended, than any town in the state. This certainly should encourage us to do even better this coming season.

I also wish to express my appreciation of the general attitude of the public toward

this work, which has been very helpful to me; and to each of the Park Commissioners especially, as they have so kindly co-operated with me in the carrying out of the detailed plans of the work.

The expenses of this work for the year ending Jan. 31, 1917, have been \$3,477.42, leaving a balance on hand of \$1,288.58.

Respectfully submitted,
 A. G. Higbee,
 Superintendent.

1907

March 15 Met at Union Block. All present.

Elected Mr. Newell Chairman. Self Secretary.
Voted to see what action the town will
take as to the collection of amounts due for
Gypsy Moth work on private lands.

Also to ask the town to appropriate for
Gypsy moth work for the ensuing year
the sum of \$3500 - Town gave out \$2000 -

Voted to pay H. F. Higby for rent of his office 5 -
per month - This includes heat & lights -
Adjourned at 9 PM

L B Richwill Sec'y.

June 13 Met at Union Block. All present. Met
Met the Readville men McLean, George, & Candall
who made up the items, for Park Grass \$16 -

Dressing 6 -

Grass seed 3 -

Carting fire stone 5 -

1907

Taking Care of Scrubs \$30-
 Total 60-

and we voted to appropriate this amt for Camp Meigs
 talked of Albert C. Madam for Special Police
 also Edward Dorgan.

Adjourned at 9 P.M.

L B Kidwell Secy.

Oct. 30.

Met at Union Block, all present. Approved
 bills on Camp Meigs for 38 - one of 6 - one of 5 -
 the last being on Small Parks. Talked over
 the matter of Appropriation for Lycopodium
 work for bal. of year.

Dec. 6

At the Selectmen's room the Park Com.
 with Mr. Bailey of the State board & Mr. Higbee
 met the sub-committee on Appropriations
 and talked over the Lycopodium work and
 Appropriation for bal. of year. Asked for 1500 -

L B Kidwell
 Secy

1908

Feb 3 Met at Union Block to consider appropriation for ensuing year. All present. Adjourned at 9.15 Pm.

Feb 8 Met Sub Committee of the Advisory Board Dr. Battigian S. F. Elliott + Mr. Barrett and advocated Appropriation of 3,700 - and were not particular as to Collection from private owners. Mr. Bates State Inspector was present. Met at 7 p.m. Adjourned at 9.30 Pm

L B Bidwell
Secy.

Mar. 12 Met at Union Block. Messrs Newell and Bidwell present. L B Bidwell Chosen Chairman + J. J. Sunking Secy.
L B Bidwell

Fourteenth Annual Report of the Board of Park Commissioners.

An addition to the duties of our Commission was made in June, 1907, at which time we were notified by the Board of Selectmen that all public squares and parks within the limits of the town be turned over to our Commission for future control and management: also the duty of seeing that the same are kept in proper condition. This is in compliance with the Revised Laws which place the control of such open squares and parks within the jurisdiction of Park Boards, and the list of such open places is as follows:

Wiggs Memorial Park
Base Ball Park at the head of Sunnyside
Street

Wolcott Square Green, Readville

Greenwood Square Green, Greenwood Square

Webster Square Green, Webster Square

Green at junction of Metropolitan Avenue
and Beacon Street

Green at junction of Highland Street
and Milton Avenue

Green at junction of Williams Avenue
and Prospect Street

At Camp Ufigs we have been much troubled by the lawlessness of people crossing the grounds in any direction, without regard to the walks laid out and marked, often making deep and irregular paths, and giving the park a slovenly appearance. It would seem that our people should have some respect for, or pride in this historic ground. We have expended on these public grounds the sum of \$58.50 for hauling stone, for seats and top dressing, and repairs of fence.

The suppression of the Gypsy Woth is still our most important duty, as no reliance can yet be placed on foreign parasites for the extermination or suppression of either the Gypsy or Brown-tail pests. It does not yet seem to be understood that your Park Commission is prosecuting this work under the immediate supervision of the state authorities, whose inspector appears on the ground often enough to keep well informed as to the amount of money expended and the work done. The State Superintendent has full power in the matter, and insists that certain work must be done. If the town does not do this work, the state authorities will do it with its own force at a greater expense to the town. We have not

made, or used as large appropriations as many towns who have to meet similar conditions, but have been accredited with accomplishing more than many of them with the same expenditure. A serious setback the past autumn and early winter was caused by the appropriation being reduced by the town from \$3,500 to \$2,000, the first named sum being necessary to carry on the work as in the previous year, and as required by the State Superintendent, with the result that practically all work had to be abandoned for more than a month in the most important part of the year.

We append the report of our local superintendent of the work.

Stillman E. Newell, Chairman,
Lawson B. Bidwell, Secretary,
John F. Conneking.

To the Board of Park Commissioners.

Gentlemen:— I submit herewith my report on the suppression of the gypsy and brown-tail moths from January 31, 1907 to January 31, 1908.

During the winter and spring of 1906-07, the entire town was thoroughly scouted for egg-clusters of the gypsy moth, with the following result.

Two hundred and ninety-seven colonies of this moth were found distributed fairly over the town—the heaviest infestation being on the northerly side, in the Hazelwood and Clarendon Hills sections, while Headville in the extreme southerly end, was found to be comparatively free from the pest.

These two hundred and ninety-seven colonies contained one thousand, one hundred and three egg clusters, which were all destroyed when found. About three-fourths of this infestation was in the residential sections of the town.

Considerable clearing was found necessary to prepare the colonies for burlapping, and on account of these colonies, twenty thousand, six hundred and eighty-five trees were burlapped. The trees along the streets throughout the town, numbering four thousand, seven hundred and eighty-six, were also burlapped, making a total of twenty-five thousand, four hundred and seventy-one burlapped trees which were closely watched and the burlaps frequently turned.

throughout the summer.

Twenty-six thousand, seven hundred and ten larvae and pupae were destroyed under these burlaps during the summer; larvae being found as late as August 27th, and pupae as late as August 30th. Many hundred were also killed by private owners in colonies on their own grounds. Spraying was found necessary in a number of instances, but the principal dependence was put upon the burlap method, as was the case last year.

A number of new colonies, mostly small, were located late in the season, and everything possible done to exterminate them.

Most of the colonies throughout the town were small ones. The

most serious one found was the Ewell colony near Clarendon Hills square. Here about two hundred egg clusters were found, mostly about the ground on rubbish and old lumber, and between the floor boards of a partly demolished building. This place was sprayed early in the season and later about five or six thousand larvae destroyed.

Another colony on Elm street contained about thirty egg clusters, none of which were found and destroyed, as they were all below snow line in our inspection of that territory. This proved quite a troublesome colony, being confined almost entirely to rose bushes, and therefore hard to eradicate. They were found too late in the season to make

spraying effectual.

Another place of quite a serious nature was the edge of a tract of about one hundred and fifty acres, lying along the east boundary line between Hyde Park and Boston near Ashland street and Calvary Cemetery. Thousands of clusters lay just across our border line, and many of the trees were entirely stripped during the summer. This made it particularly hard for us to hold them at this spot, but by cutting and burning along this border, and also burlesping a strip on each side of Harvard street, which runs from Ashland street to Hyde Park, we have succeeded in keeping them pretty well under control, being helped somewhat by the partial clearing

up of the worst places along Ashland street.

Seven hundred and twenty larvae, and four hundred and twenty-two pupae were found along the street trees, aside from the colonies, showing the amount carried by travel, and the advantage of burlapping the street trees. While these were scattered generally throughout the town, by far the greater portion of them were picked up in the northerly and easterly sections, and I am still of the opinion that much of our infestation comes from towns to the north and east of us, where these precautions are not taken.

As it was voted in town meeting assembled last April to have all this work done by the

town, I have considered it as a whole and have not kept individual accounts with private property owners. This plan of work has many advantages, and allows much more to be accomplished in the actual suppression of the pests. No notices were sent out to property owners this fall thus saving an expense of about fifty dollars, this action being based on the supposition of the continuance of this plan of work.

Three men were regularly employed throughout the summer to attend the burles, and I have had one or two extra men for clearing work and brush cutting, as occasion required.

The results accomplished in Grey's Woods the previous season

were made apparent in the inspection of last spring, when only two hundred and sixty-six egg clusters were found, as against four hundred and thirty-four of the previous spring when but a third of the territory was scouted. Nine thousand, eight hundred and fourteen trees were burlapped here, after the brush had been cut and burned, and eleven thousand, nine hundred and seventy-five larvae and pupae were taken under the burlaps. This is still the most serious proposition, as it is difficult to keep these pests from spreading, in a tract of woodland which is so much frequented in the larval season as are these woods.

The Stony Brook Reservation is

infested all along the western border of these woods, and the section immediately across the Boston line is infested for its entire length and no work against the moths is being done there.

At the end of the larval season, the last of August, which ends the summer's work, the struck burlaps were all removed and burned, but contrary to the usual custom, and at the request of the state agent, they were not removed from the woods or orchards, being cleaned and left on the trees to see if they would be suitable for use another season. This, of course, is largely experimental and it is a question whether it will be more economical in the end.

The failure of the town to appropriate sufficient money at our last annual meeting in April to carry on the work for a year has proven to be poor economy. The appropriation made at that time to carry on the work until fall was made to last till about the first of November, but as the special town meeting was not called until January 2, 1908, the work was practically held up for two months. This delay, coming in a season when more could be accomplished than at any other time, has put a serious check on the work and will cause an ultimate expense far exceeding the amount asked for last April to accomplish the same results as would have been accomplished

with that amount, had the work been allowed to continue uninterrupted.

It is expected, however, that at our coming annual meeting, this department will be put on the same basis as other town departments; unexpended balances to revert to the treasury at the end of the fiscal year, and provision made allowing one-sixth of the following year's appropriation to be drawn upon to cover the expenses of the two months intervening between the end of the fiscal year and the annual appropriation meeting. Without doubt, appropriations for this department will then be made to cover the year's work, and not for an indefinite period of time as all

previous appropriations have been made. This will be found to be a more practical and businesslike method, as it is more economical; the special fall meeting being very indefinite and uncertain in its appearance and allowing delays in the work, which are always dangerous in work of this nature.

The unusual open winter and almost entire absence of snow, has assisted us greatly in our winter search for egg clusters, and while it will be impossible to accomplish the work that would have been done had there been no delay, we hope to be able to make up for it in a large degree—our success depending considerably on the weather conditions between now and the first

of April.

I have now four regular inspectors employed for this scout. It will probably be necessary to employ one or two extra men for the clearing work in the early spring, depending on the number and condition of colonies located. Also one or two additional men will be needed throughout the summer to attend the burles.

In the winter's scout we have now covered about two-thirds of the residential section. Considerable territory including all the wooded sections of the town still remain to be gone over, as do also the street trees, - excepting the lower parts, or ground work. We continue to find scattered

small colonies throughout the town, mostly in new locations from those of last year, showing conclusively the effect of surrounding conditions, as we find in the majority of cases that our last year's colonies are clean.

This must naturally be expected for several years, until our woods colonies are wiped out and the badly infested places just across our line to the north of us are cleaned up. This is an unfortunate condition of affairs, and makes it particularly hard for us to keep our town clean, as there is so much travel through all parts of the town, coming from the badly infested areas, that the larvae are unconsciously transported

in many ways. It will therefore require the continuance of a most vigorous campaign against these pests, if we desire to keep our town free from their ravages, as we have succeeded in doing in the past.

The inspection of this winter has shown the Quail colony, before mentioned as our most serious one of the past season, to be exterminated, which I think shows pretty close work under the existing conditions.

The brown-tail moth has given us very little trouble here the past year, and the necessary work is done in connection with that against the gypsy moth. On such

winter's scunk seven hundred and sixty three of the winter work of this month were culled and burned and during the summer there has been no trouble from that source. So far this winter they have been found in fewer numbers than last year.

This work is all carried on under state supervision, the state agent outlining the work to be done, and a state inspector following up the work about twice a week. The annual report has been submitted to Mr. F. A. Bates, field agent in charge of this division, and itemized monthly reports of expenditures are now submitted to Supr. Kirkland at the state office.

The expenses for the work for the fiscal year just closed have been \$3871.51. The total amount available for the work being \$4763.53, this leaves a balance on hand, January 31, 1908, of \$892.17.

The work of the current year, depending largely on the result of this winter's scout, has been carefully figured out and estimates made for the year's expenses. In all probability many more trees will require burlapping than last year - a conservative estimate being about thirty thousand. This is on account of the increased number of small, scattered colonies, and is in no way traceable to lack of attention to last year's colonies;

being, as I have before referred to, the result of the unconscious transportation of the larvae, which is one of the most serious propositions to contend with in this work.

The agent has gone over this matter very carefully with me with the intention of keeping the expenses down as low as possible consistent with effective work, and we have been very conservative in our plans and estimates.

We have figured as a result that the estimated expenses of the year's work will be about \$4,650.00. With the balance on hand of \$892.00 this would require an appropriation of \$3758.00 and I would respectfully ask that a sum of at least

\$3700.00 be appropriated at the annual meeting to properly maintain this work for the ensuing year. Mr. Bates who is thoroughly familiar with conditions here, has gone over this several times estimating in different ways, and strongly urges that at least this amount will be needed to do the work as it should be done; and it is well known that where this is neglected, in every instance much larger sums are required to do the work, than would have been necessary had it been taken in time and done properly.

The present method of carrying on this work as it is done in our town, Milton, Brookline, and a few others,

has proven so successful, and so much more economical considering the actual suppression accomplished, that despite the fact that the large majority of cities and towns are doing the work the other way, and charging the private work to the owners, it seems to me by far the wisest, best and most economical way for all concerned, to keep these moths in suppression here.

These pests are a public nuisance and it is of equal benefit to all to have them destroyed wherever they may be. The most infestations are liable to be on the property of a person who is not in the slightest degree to blame for there being there, and he should not, therefore, be

compelled to stand the expense of removing them. When the money is appropriated by the town from the general fund, its equal proportion falls on all property owners alike, provided the land is assessed as it should be. Each bears his own part of the expense, and all share alike in the benefit for the common good.

It cannot be denied that a trained force of men can go through all the property and do the necessary work in a better and cheaper way than it can be done by being left to the property owners to do. Furthermore if the work is charged up, the town can only collect according to law.

an amount equal to one-half of one per cent. of the assessed valuation of the property on which the work is done. In nearly every case the most expensive of our colonies to eradicate have been on land of low valuation and with no buildings thereon. It is only natural from the workings of these moths that such would be the case, and in all such colonies, by far the greater portion of the expenses must necessarily be borne by the town, as the cost of taking proper care of them far exceeds the amount which can be collected.

Again, the work, if left to the property owners is, in but a comparatively few cases properly

done. If any attempt it, and by doing it wrongly or only partially doing it, cause more harm than good. If in charge of one force, the superintendent may know at all times the state of infestation throughout the town, and govern his work accordingly.

If a colony springs up in a particularly dangerous locality he can take extra precautions to stamp it out at once, as was done last year in the Quell colony. This is a good example, as the necessary work on this colony covered land owned by several parties, and such work would not have been done had it been left to the owners to do.

If the work is charged

up as the law provides, the owners must be given a chance to do their own work. There are also many other items of clerical work and unnecessary accounts which would have to be kept in this way of doing the work, which are not now in our present method. It seems to me our object should be to keep these pests down as much as possible wherever they are, and every dollar possible of the amount appropriated, put into actual suppression work.

This, I believe, can only be accomplished when work is done along the present lines, and I have entered somewhat fully into this matter, as I know it has been in the

minds of some to change over the plan of work here, thinking the other way less expensive for the town, but I sincerely hope that this will not be done.

To prove that the other method of work here was not very satisfactory in the town where it has been done according to the present law, we find out that there is a bill coming up before the state legislature to have all work on private property done by the cities and towns, which is the same method as we are now carrying on the work here.

This method need not interfere in the slightest, however, with property owners

assisting us in our work. All information and help possible is always cheerfully given by the State or town forces, and the owners may be of a great deal of assistance by keeping their trees in proper shape, cutting down worthless brush, and decaying trees, blocking up holes in their trees, and doing such other work as may be outlined by the local forces, for the good of the whole. In this way much may be done to keep down the expenses of the work. With such help there seems to be no reason why these pests should ever get the upper hand here, and it is only when such co-operation exists that the

best results are obtainable.

This report is accompanied by two maps; one showing the location of all colonies throughout the town; the other being a special map of Grews Woods, and showing the state of infestation existing there.

Respectfully submitted,
Harry G. Higbee,
Local Superintendent.

To the Board of Park Commissioners.

Gentlemen:—I submit herewith my report on the suppression of the gypsy and brown-tail moths from January 31, 1907 to January 31, 1908.

During the winter and spring of 1906-07, the entire town was thoroughly scouted for egg-clusters of the gypsy moth, with the following result.

Two hundred and ninety-seven colonies of this moth were found distributed fairly over the town—the heaviest infestation being on the northerly side, in the Hazelwood and Clarendon Hills sections, while Readville in the extreme south-erly end, was found to be comparatively free from the pest.

These two hundred and ninety-seven colonies contained one thousand, one hundred and three egg clusters, which were all destroyed when found. About three-fourths of this infestation was in the residential sections of the town.

Considerable clearing was found necessary to prepare the colonies for burlapping, and on account of these colonies, twenty thousand, six hundred and eighty-five trees were burlapped. The trees along the streets throughout the town, numbering four thousand, seven hundred and eighty-six, were also burlapped, making a total of twenty-five thousand, four hundred and seventy-one burlapped trees which were closely watched and the burlaps frequently turned throughout the summer.

Twenty-six thousand, seven hundred and ten larvae and pupae were destroyed under these burlaps during the summer; larvae being found as late as August 27th, and pupae as late as August 30th. Many hundred were also killed by private owners in colonies on their own grounds. Spraying was found necessary in a number of instances, but the principal dependence was put upon the burlap method, as was the case last year.

A number of new colonies, mostly small, were located late

in the season, and everything possible done to exterminate them.

Most of the colonies throughout the town were small ones. The most serious one found was the Ewell colony near Clarendon Hills square. Here about two hundred egg clusters were found, mostly about the ground on rubbish and old lumber, and between the floor boards of a partly demolished building. This place was sprayed early in the season and later about five or six thousand larvae destroyed.

Another colony on Elm street contained about thirty egg clusters, none of which were found and destroyed, as they were all below snow line on our inspection of that territory. This proved quite a troublesome colony, being confined almost entirely to rose bushes, and therefore hard to eradicate. They were found too late in the season to make spraying effectual.

Another place of quite a serious nature was the edge of a tract of about one hundred and fifty acres, lying along the east boundary line between Hyde Park and Boston near Ashland street and Calvary Cemetery. Thousands of clusters lay just across our border line, and many of the trees were entirely stripped during the summer. This made it particularly hard for us to hold them at this spot, but by cutting and burning along this border, and also burlapping a strip on each side of Harvard street, which runs from Ashland street to Hyde Park, we have succeeded in keeping them pretty well under control, being helped somewhat by the partial clearing up of the worst places along Ashland street.

Seven hundred and twenty larvae, and four hundred and twenty-two pupae were found along the street trees, aside from the colonies, showing the amount carried by travel, and the advantage of burlapping the street trees. While these were scattered generally throughout the town, by far the greater portion of them were picked up in the northerly and easterly sections, and I am still of the opinion that much of

our infestation comes from towns to the north and east of us, where these precautions are not taken.

As it was voted in town meeting assembled last April, to have all this work done by the town, I have considered it as a whole and have not kept individual accounts with private property owners. This plan of work has many advantages, and allows much more to be accomplished in the actual suppression of the pests. No notices were sent out to property owners this fall thus saving an expense of about fifty dollars, this action being based on the supposition of the continuance of this plan of work.

Three men were regularly employed throughout the summer to attend the burlaps, and I have had one or two extra men for clearing work and brush cutting, as occasion required.

The results accomplished in Grew's Woods the previous season were made apparent in the inspection of last spring, when only two hundred and sixty-six egg clusters were found, as against four hundred and thirty-four of the previous spring when but a third of the territory was scouted. Nine thousand, eight hundred and fourteen trees were burlapped here, after the brush had been cut and burned, and eleven thousand, nine hundred and seventy-five larvae and pupae were taken under the burlaps. This is still the most serious proposition, as it is difficult to keep these pests from spreading, in a tract of woodland which is so much frequented in the larval season as are these woods.

The Stony Brook Reservation is infested all along the western border of these woods, and the section immediately across the Boston line is infested for its entire length and no work against the moths is being done there.

At the end of the larval season, the last of August, which ends the summer's work, the street burlaps were all removed and burned, but contrary to the usual custom, and at the request of the state agent, they were not removed from the woods or orchards, being cleaned and left on the trees to see

if they would be suitable for use another season. This, of course, is largely experimental and it is a question whether it will be more economical in the end.

The failure of the town to appropriate sufficient money at our last annual meeting in April to carry on the work for a year has proven to be poor economy. The appropriation made at that time to carry on the work until fall was made to last till about the first of November, but as the special town meeting was not called until January 2, 1908, the work was practically held up for two months. This delay, coming in a season when more could be accomplished than at any other time, has put a serious check on the work and will cause an ultimate expense far exceeding the amount asked for last April to accomplish the same results as would have been accomplished with that amount, had the work been allowed to continue uninterrupted.

It is expected, however, that at our coming annual meeting, this department will be put on the same basis as other town departments; unexpended balances to revert to the treasury at the end of the fiscal year, and provision made allowing one-sixth of the following year's appropriation to be drawn upon to cover the expenses of the two months intervening between the end of the fiscal year and the annual appropriation meeting. Without doubt, appropriations for this department will then be made to cover the year's work, and not for an indefinite period of time, as all previous appropriations have been made. This will be found to be a more practical and business-like method, as it is more economical; the special fall meeting being very indefinite and uncertain in its appearance, and allowing delays in the work, which are always dangerous in work of this nature.

The unusual open winter and almost entire absence of snow, has assisted us greatly in our winter scout for egg clusters, and while it will be impossible to accomplish the work that would have been done had there been no delay

we hope to be able to make up for it in a large degree—our success depending considerably on the weather conditions between now and the first of April.

I have now four regular inspectors employed for this scout. It will probably be necessary to employ one or two extra men for the clearing work in the early spring, depending on the number and condition of colonies located. Also one or two additional men will be needed throughout the summer to attend the burlaps.

In the winter's scout we have now covered about two-thirds of the residential section. Considerable territory including all the wooded sections of the town still remain to be gone over, as do also the street trees,—excepting the lower parts, or ground work. We continue to find scattered small colonies throughout the town, mostly in new locations from those of last year, showing conclusively the effect of surrounding conditions, as we find in the majority of cases that our last year's colonies are clean.

This must naturally be expected for several years, until our woods colonies are wiped out and the badly infested places just across our line to the north of us are cleaned up. This is an unfortunate condition of affairs, and makes it particularly hard for us to keep our town clean, as there is so much travel through all parts of the town, coming from the badly infested areas, that the larvae are unconsciously transported in many ways. It will therefore require the continuance of a most vigorous campaign against these pests, if we desire to keep our town free from their ravages, as we have succeeded in doing in the past.

The inspection of this winter has shown the Ewell colony, before mentioned as our most serious one of the past season, to be exterminated; which I think shows pretty close work under the existing conditions.

The brown-tail moth has given us very little trouble here the past year, and the necessary work is done in connection

with that against the gypsy moth. In last winter's scout, seven hundred and forty-three of the winter webs of this moth were cut off and burned, and during the summer there has been no trouble from that source. So far this winter they have been found in fewer numbers than last year.

This work is all carried on under state supervision, the state agent outlining the work to be done, and a state inspector following up the work about twice a week. My annual report has been submitted to Mr. F. A. Bates, field agent in charge of this division, and itemized monthly reports of expenditures are now submitted to Supt. Kirkland at the state office.

The expenses of the work for the fiscal year just closed have been \$3871.41. The total amount available for the work being \$4763.53, this leaves a balance on hand, January 31, 1908, of \$892.17.

The work of the current year, depending largely on the result of this winter's scout, has been carefully figured out and estimates made for the year's expenses. In all probability many more trees will require burlapping than last year—a conservative estimate being about thirty thousand. This is on account of the increased number of small, scattered colonies, and is in no way traceable to lack of attention to last year's colonies; being, as I have before referred to, the result of the unconscious transportation of the larvae, which is one of the most serious propositions to contend with in this work.

The agent has gone over this matter very carefully with me with the intention of keeping the expenses down as low as possible consistent with effective work, and we have been very conservative in our plans and estimates.

We have figured as a result that the estimated expenses of the year's work will be about \$4,650.00. With the balance on hand of \$892.00 this would require an appropriation of \$3758.00 and I would respectfully ask that a sum of at least \$3700.00 be appropriated at the annual meeting to properly

maintain this work for the ensuing year. Mr. Bates who is thoroughly familiar with conditions here, has gone over this several times estimating in different ways, and strongly urges that at least this amount will be needed to do the work as it should be done; and it is well known that where this is neglected, in every instance much larger sums are required to do the work, than would have been necessary had it been taken in time and done properly.

The present method of carrying on this work as it is done in our town, Milton, Brookline, and a few others, has proven so successful, and so much more economical considering the actual suppression accomplished, that despite the fact that the large majority of cities and towns are doing the work the other way, and charging the private work to the owners, it seems to me by far the wisest, best and most economical way for all concerned, to keep these moths in suppression here.

These pests are a public nuisance, and it is of equal benefit to all to have them destroyed wherever they may be. The worst infestations are liable to be on the property of a person who is not in the slightest degree to blame for there being there, and he should not, therefore, be compelled to stand the expense of removing them. When the money is appropriated by the town from the general fund, its equal proportion falls on all property owners alike, provided the land is assessed as it should be. Each bears his own part of the expense, and all share alike in the benefit for the common good.

It cannot be denied that a trained force of men can go through all the property and do the necessary work in a better and cheaper way than it can be done by being left to the property owners to do. Furthermore if the work is charged up, the town can only collect according to law, an amount equal to one-half of one per cent. of the assessed valuation of the property on which the work is done. In nearly every case the most expensive of our colonies to eradicate have been on land of low valuation and with no buildings

private property done by the cities and towns, which is the same method as we are now carrying on the work here.

This method need not interfere in the slightest, however, with property owners assisting us in our work. All information and help possible is always cheerfully given by the state or town forces, and the owners may be of a great deal of assistance by keeping their trees in proper shape, cutting down worthless brush, and decaying trees, blocking up holes in their trees, and doing such other work as may be outlined by the local forces, for the good of the whole. In this way much may be done to keep down the expenses of the work. With such help there seems to be no reason why these pests should ever get the upper hand here, and it is only when such co-operation exists that the best results are obtainable.

This report is accompanied by two maps; one showing the location of all colonies throughout the town; the other being a special map of Grews Woods, and showing the state of infestation existing there.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRY G. HIGBEE,

Local Superintendent.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PARK COMMISSION

An addition to the duties of our Commission was made in June, 1907, at which time we were notified by the Board of Selectmen that all public squares and parks within the limits of the town be turned over to our Commission for future control and management: also the duty of seeing that the same are kept in proper condition. This is in compliance with the Revised Laws which place the control of such open squares and parks within the jurisdiction of Park Boards, and the list of such open places is as follows:

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Base Ball Park at the head of Sunnyside Street
Wolcott Square Green, Readville
Greenwood Square Green, Greenwood Square
Webster Square Green, Webster Square
Green at junction of Metropolitan Avenue and Beacon Street
Green at junction of Highland Street and Milton Avenue
Green at junction of Williams Avenue and Prospect Street

At Camp Meigs we have been much troubled by the lawlessness of people crossing the grounds in any direction, without regard to the walks laid out and marked, often making deep and irregular paths, and giving the park a slovenly appearance. It would seem that our people should have some respect for, or pride in this historic ground. We have expended on these public grounds the sum of \$158.50 for hauling stone, for seats and top dressing, and repairs of fence.

The suppression of the Gypsy Moth is still our most important duty, as no reliance can yet be placed on foreign parasites for the extermination or suppression of either the Gypsy or Brown-tail pests. It does not yet seem to be under-

stood that your Park Commission is prosecuting this work under the immediate supervision of the state authorities, whose inspector appears on the ground often enough to keep well informed as to the amount of money expended and the work done. The State Superintendent has full power in the matter, and insists that certain work must be done. If the town does not do this work, the state authorities will do it with its own force at a greater expense to the town. We have not made, or used as large appropriations as many towns who have to meet similar conditions, but have been accredited with accomplishing more than many of them with the same expenditure. A serious setback the past autumn and early winter was caused by the appropriation being reduced by the town from \$3,500 to \$2,000, the first named sum being necessary to carry on the work as in the previous year, and as required by the State Superintendent, with the result that practically all work had to be abandoned for more than a month in the most important part of the year.

We ^{have} appended the report of our local superintendent of the work.

STILLMAN E. NEWELL, Chairman,
LAWSON B. BIDWELL, Secretary,
JOHN J. ENNEKING.

1908

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Keyde Park March 12th 1908

7.36 P.m.

Met at office Union Block -
Present Bidwell Newell &
Emmett. Organized by
Chas. Larson B. Bidwell
Chairman & John J. Emmett.
Secy - Adjourned 9 P.m.

See page 270.

April 20th 1908 7.20 P.m.

met at office Union Block -
Present - Bidwell Newell &
Emmett -

A communication from the
Readville association drawing
attention to the bad condition
of Wolcott Sq. fence, with a
suggestion that an iron
railing was needed to satisfy
the demand of existing conditions.
Mr. Newell was chosen as a

Local Superintendent reported progress
in Gypsy & Brown tail moths work -

Committee of one to look into
The matter and report at next
meeting. Mr. Bidwell was again
Chosen as a Committee of one to
take charge of the Gypsy and Brown
tail moths work and report
progress - Also was appointed
to take charge of Meigs Memorial
Park and Wolcott Square green
Readville - Mr. Emmet King, it was
voted, to take charge of the
following squares & "greens":
Greenwood Square - Webster Sq.
Green at junction of Metropolitan &
" " " " " Highland St. & Beacon St.
" " " " " William's Ave. & Prospect St.
adjourned 10 o'clock
John J. Emmet King Secy.

May 23rd 1908 - 730 P.m.

Met at office Union Block -
 Present Bidwell Newell Eumeking.
 Report of last meeting read & approved.
 Mr Eumeking made report that
 Mr. Grew could not be persuaded
 to consider any proposition
 looking towards the town acquiring
 land for an athletic field near
 Hazelwood station, owned by him.
 Mr. Newell after report on Walcott
 Sq. fence, was given further time
 to get estimates as to the possible
 expense of an iron fence to
 enclose the square -

adjourned 9.30 P.m.

John J. Eumeking
 Secy.

March 1st 1909

Met at Union Block
Present Jewell and Bidwell
Met the whole delegation from
Readville about the fence at
Wolcott Square and flag pole on
Camp Meigs. We proposed to
hand over the old pole to the
Camp Meigs Association to dispose
of, and they were to have the
iron cross trees straightened for
use on the new pole

Adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

L B Bidwell.
Secy

March 8th 1909.

Met at Union Block.

Present - Messrs. Emmeking, Jewell and Bidwell.

Records of previous meeting read and approved.

Supr. of moth work present.

Made Emmeking, Chairman.

L. B. Bidwell, Secy.

Talked over the matter of the flag pole at Camp Wye and fence about Wolcott Sq. and appropriation for Gypsy Moth work, and appropriation for parks and open spaces. Practically agreed to ask for \$5000 - for Gypsy moth and \$500 - for parks.

Mr. Jewell was to put in the necessary papers for the two articles in the warrant to the Selectmen and to the Town Clerk for the amount over \$500 - that we should

ask for. I was to write
the Acting State Suph. of Gypsy
Moth work, L. H. Northley, 6 Beacon
St. Boston for the same
information he gives the
Advisory Committee.

Adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

L B Bidwell Secy

March 16th 1909.

Mch at Union Block.

Present - Messrs. Enneking and
Bidwell and Suph. Gypsy Moth work.
Records of last meeting read and
approved.

Mr. Enneking was to meet the
Advisory Board in the evening of
March 17th. Mr. Jewell was sick, and
Bidwell could not be on hand. Mar. 17th.
Adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

L B Bidwell Secy

March 29th 1909.

Met at Union Block.

Present - Messrs. Ensmaking, Jewell
and Bidwell.

Records of previous meeting
read and approved.

Talked over the matter of
appropriations. Concluded to
ask for \$500 - for Parks and
\$500 - for the Gypsy 71/2th
work.

N. G. Higbee was present.

Adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

L. B. Bidwell Secy.

April 12th 1909.

Met at Union Block.

Present - Enneking, Jewell and Bidwell. Harry Higbee present. Records of previous meeting read and approved.

Agreed to use the new appropriation of \$3000 - the same as last year. Had a letter drawn off by Mr. Jewell appointing Harry Higbee Supr. at salary of \$18 - per week.

Chairman Grant came in and looked up and read the act for play grounds, which as the town has voted to accept the act, makes it obligatory on the Park Com.

to buy one play ground before July 1909. Made Mr. Enneking a committee of one to see Mr. Grew about his land. Also Mr. Jewell agreed to see the people in Boston about flag pole.

1909

Adjourned at 8:56 P.M.

L B Bidwell Secy

Aug 2

Voted to Concur with the Selectmen in granting permission to the Board of Met. Park Com. to use material from the town's bank near Mother brook pond for grading a play ground on reservation there.

L B Bidwell.

Secy

pt 1

Mem. Jos^d & Gowney reported on the Henry Grace estate during winter of 1908 & 1909. 5738 patches of Hesperia moth eggs or clusters have been discovered. No known larval moths found.

L B Bidwell

Secy

June 14. 1909

Met at Union Block. All present. Reading of records of last meeting dispensed with. Mr. Newell made report as to erection of Flag Staff at Camp Meigs in time for Memorial day. Concluded it would be best to postpone painting and concreting about base until next season. Talked over the square near Greenwood School. Thought if more shrubs died the people would be content to have all taken up. Read act as to play grounds. We have to provide but one as we have not 20,000 inhabitants, and Mr. Sumner was to show Mr. Green the act and see what progress he could make, as this was the most desirable lot. Adjourned at 7 P.M.

L B Richwell, Sec'y.

Fifteenth Annual Report of the Park Commissioners.

The work of our Commission the past year has been satisfactory only in the smaller and less important matters, such as the care of Camp Meigs and the five small squares in different parts of the town. We have expended for enrichment, cutting grass, plants and fence, on Camp Meigs \$44.00, and on the smaller squares \$40.00, making a total of \$84.00. It has been impossible, both on Camp Meigs and on Wolcott Square, to prevent the grass from being injured; especially on Wolcott Square, where the temporary wire fence has much of the time been

unsightly and practically useless. We recommend at this place a single rail iron pipe fence, the iron posts to be set in small cement concrete bases.

The gypsy and brown-tail moth work has been unsatisfactory from want of money to properly prosecute it; the appropriation having been reduced to about one-half the estimated requirement, — the argument for such reduction being that as other towns had made smaller appropriations, we should do the same. The fact was not mentioned that Canton's appropriation was supplemented by a large contribution from one of its citizens, or that other towns contiguous to ours had done little or no work near our

borders. Our superintendent's
 report is appended hereto, and
 he has done all he could
 with the money at his
 command, but has not
 been able to do all of the
 work on private land which
 was suggested by the owners,
 charging them with the
 cost as directed by the
 trust. This was the case
 in Crew's Woods, where but
 very little has been done
 by the owner, and so
 little done as to be of
 doubtful benefit. One has
 only to ride along Fresh
 Street to see the untouched
 gypsy moth egg clusters, re-
 maining as 24 being counted by
 us under and near the old
 burlap on one small tree.

One week's work there now would have more effect than months of work later, but we cannot do this without neglecting our own streets. There is no doubt that an appropriation of \$2,000.00 more last year would have accomplished more than \$3,000.00 will this year.

It is difficult to say what it is best to do, when the adjoining towns do little or nothing on our borders, but it is perfectly evident that the appropriation last year was much too small, and the town must take the responsibility of the reduced appropriation. For the present year, at least, the cost of notices, and labor working up the matter, will, we think, amount to as much

as can be collected on
private lands.

As to, Shaw-grounds, we
have interested ourselves
to make some inquiries,
but do not find that
anything can be done
without an appropriation
for purchase of land.

Wm. B. Bidwell, Chairman
John I. Enneking, Secretary,
Stillman C. Jewell,

1909

Report of Superintendent of Gypsy Moth Work.

To the Board of Park Commissioners.

Gentlemen:- Following is a detailed report of the work of suppressing the Gypsy and brown-tail moths in this town for the year ending Jan. 31, 1909.

A map of the town, showing the location of all Gypsy Moth colonies at the beginning of last season, accompanies this report. Exclusive of Lewis Woods, there were 368 colonies containing 1193 egg-clusters, located in last winter's scout. Lewis woods was found infested in various parts, and added 547 egg-clusters to those already mentioned. These 1740 egg-clusters were all destroyed when found, but the following up of this work by the burlop method, which is necessary to accomplish any real suppression, could not be carried out on account of lack of funds. The result being that the entire town has now become infested by scattering nests, and most of the colonies which were not burloped and attended during the summer have increased in infestation, being now from 50 percent to 4000 percent worse than they were last year.

After a careful investigation and summing up of the

work required through the season, by State Sept. .
 Kirkland, State Agent. Bates and myself, an appropriation
 of \$4,592.17 was asked for to carry on 1 year's work.

At the annual meeting in April this amount was reduced
 to 2,892.17. It thus became at once apparent that
 the work, as outlined, must be cut down to a considerable
 degree. At this meeting it was also voted to change

over the plan of work; hereafter charging the property
 owners all work done by the town forces upon their lands.

This was done with the expectation that most of the
 property owners would do their own work and thereby
 lessen the expense to the town. About 8 percent

of the owners or tenants where we had located colonies
 made some attempt to keep their places clean with
 varying results. Some of the places thus cared

are now worse than they were last year, some are
 better, and a few colonies are apparently exterminated.

If we had been provided with sufficient funds to
 look after these colonies where the owners failed to do
 so, as the law provides, probably more work would
 have been attempted by them, and the results might have
 been different. Throughout the summer we
 attended 95 of the 365 colonies which had been located

also taking care of the steel trees and other town property: in this connection burlopping 10,175 trees and destroying 20,301 larvae and pupae, under the burlaps. Some spraying was also done in the worst infested colonies. An examination in the fall of 1908 showed 87 of the 95 colonies which we attended to either exterminated or reduced in infestation. However, only about one-third of the infestation was attended to by us, and what was left has increased with the results already mentioned. Special notices were sent to all property owners last April, notifying them of the change of work, and requesting their cooperation by attending to their own places. The regular fall notices were also sent out Nov. 1. Each sending of these notices costing about \$75. No work was done by the local force in Grew's woods during the past summer. The entire section was thoroughly scouted during the spring and winter previous, and every egg cluster which could be found destroyed. The futility of this work when not followed up by attending the burlaps or spraying is here shown as a striking example. No attempt was made by the owners to keep the place clear, and throughout the larval

Season. Thousands of the nests were allowed to carry on their work of destruction; not only in these woods but on account of the great amount of travel here in the summer time and the cutting and hauling of infected wood from place to place the larvae have become distributed from this agency undoubtedly to all parts of our own town and to various outside localities. While these woods have not been scouted this winter, a general survey shows them to be infested through out, and it is safe to say there are at least 10,000 egg clusters in this section alone. It is not surprising that larvae were so plentiful in this section last summer, as many of the egg clusters had been found broken or knocked off the trees in the winter's scout - leaving them to hatch upon the ground. This condition would not have existed, had we been able to burlop and attend this section as we did the previous, and only goes to show that the destruction of what egg clusters are found will not in itself keep the pests in suppression. Over 8,000 larvae and pupae were destroyed under the burlops of the street trees along Austin and West Streets in the

vicinity of these woods. Fairview Cemetery has been kept comparatively clean the past season. Notwithstanding the fact that there are several Egg Clusters just across our line in the Redham woods, nothing was done there last year, but I believe the place is to be partially cleaned up at least before hatching time next season. A number of trees were shipped on the Boston side of the line at Hyde Park Avenue last Summer and thousands of the larvae come over to our side. After many complaints, however some work was done there to keep them in check, as was also done in the infected district at Ashland Street near our border line. Since May 1, 1908 we have done suppression work on 113 estates: the amount of the cost of said work which is collectible according to law being \$180.77 a minimum charge of 25 cents being made. A good deal of work was done on vacant land where neither the Owners nor the boundaries of the property can be ascertained, so that there will probably be considerable of this which cannot be collected. As soon as possible these charges

will be turned over to the Tax Collector for
Settlement. In the winter inspection of 1907-
1908 875 nests of the brown tail were cut off and
burned and comparatively no trouble was made
if not from this source during the season. The
large flight of the winged moths however which
swept over this and adjacent towns on June 30th
coming from infested places to the north of us,
has left its traces and there is scarcely a yard
in town which does not now contain nests of
the brown tail. This while not serious if
attended to before spring will require considerable
more time and added expense in the removal
of them, than has been required in ~~years~~ previous.

Throughout the year I have employed two
inspectors on the work with the exception of
about five weeks lay off on account of lack of
funds, and during the early spring work I
employed several extra men as is usually required.

The total expenses for the year have been \$2892.16
divided as follows-

Salary of Superintendent	736.00
Labor hire	1635.75
Rent of barn	24.00
Fuel, and supplies	296.41
	<u>2892.16</u>

As the amount available for the work was 2892.17 there is a balance of 66.01 in the treasury; which, according to the change of by-laws made at the April meeting reverts to the general fund. Deducting the amount charged to property owners \$80.77 the net cost to the town for the year's work was \$2711.39.

Detailed reports of all the expenses have been rendered monthly to the State Superintendent, and an annual report of the work for the calendar year of 1908 has been submitted to State Agent Bates, in charge of this division. In consideration of the present condition of the infestation here, and in summing up the whole matter I would respectfully recommend an appropriation of at least \$7,000.00 be made available for the maintenance of this work for the ensuing year. It seems very certain that if more vigorous efforts are not put forth to subdue these moths than was possible with the amount at hand last year, these pests will soon be beyond reasonable control as they have become in many other places requiring not only much heavier expenses for the town, but the

cooperation of State and National aid to accomplish the results. The State authorities have investigated the situation here and strongly recommended an expenditure of at least the amount herein asked for to be made. It will require the clearing out and keeping clean of at least a hundred foot stretch on each side of West Street and borders of Hawthoods to keep this place from reinfesting the town, and becoming a menace to outside territories from the travel which exists here during the larval season. Some work is being done here by the owners in destroying a few egg clusters but it is of such a nature as to amount to nothing in the suppression of the pests. Probably considerable spraying will also be found necessary next spring and if much of this is to be done it will be to the advantage of the town and in the interest of economy to purchase a large spraying machine, as at present the small hand pump and barrel, which can only be used for fine mist spraying is our only apparatus for this work, and is not practical for work on a large scale. Of course the purchase of a power sprayer, as most of the towns are now using, would be an added expense, and

not included in the above estimate. It will be necessary to employ four or five men through the bucking season, if the colonies are to be bucked and attended as they should. Of course a great deal more of the amount expended would be collectible from property owners another year, as the season was greatly advanced when the change was made last year, and not having the funds to work with we did not do the work which we otherwise would on private estates. Knowing that the owners could keep their own places clean, if they saw fit to do so. This work has always been carried on within its appropriation. However much the amounts asked for have been cut down. This seems to me to be the only business like policy to follow, and it remains therefore for the townspeople to say how much shall be done here another year. Certain it is that the ^{cost of} cleaning up the colonies this year is at least 50 per cent greater than would have been required to produce the same results last year and it is a question whether this kind of economy pays in the long run. State Superintendent Kirkland made the following statement in referring to this town in his annual report last year. (Public document 73

Page 89) The situation in Hyde Park is a serious one, and a liberal expenditure of funds in fighting the mottos here during 1908 will be in the interests of economy. This might well be repeated for 1909.

Respectfully submitted

Harry G. Higbee

Local Superintendent

1909
Oct. 28

Met at Union Block. All present. Mr. Enneking made report as to play grounds. Said that the Chas. on Hill and Hydeswood Imp. Association had in their own motion arranged to see Mr. Grew, and that he agreed if Austin St. was extended for him he would donate the land, but they did not see the Selectmen. The estimated cost of extending the street was \$500- and Grew saw the Selectmen and they would not agree to the extension.

Mr. Enneking was to see the Selectmen

about grading off the high ground between
the R.R. and Austin St. South of Fresh St.
for the gravel and to fill refuse into
low ground if that could be had in
place of that North of Fresh St. L. B. Bidwell
was to arrange for top dressing small square
and Camp Leigs, and to make appointment
with Wm. Lewis, Chairman of the Sub. Com.
of the Advisory Board for a meeting week
after next on appropriation for gypsy moth.
Adjourned at 9 P.M. L. B. Bidwell, Secty.

1910
Jan 6-

Met at Mr. Ormeling's Studio. All present.
Agreed in account of the lateness of the
mid winter appropriation meeting and
the action of the Advisory Board to
move to indefinitely postpone article
10: which was to see if the Town would
appropriate \$1500.- for the suppression
of the Gypsy + Brown-tail moths.

L. B. Bidwell,
Secty.

Jan. 17

Met at Union Block. All present.
Harry Sigbee also present to
consider the matter of a report for
the year, and an appropriation for
the Gypsy Moth work. An estimate
and detail as to its application of
\$6000~ was made by Sigbee and
agreed to by State Agent Hatch for
the coming year. It was the
general opinion that this amount
should be asked for. L. B. Bidwell
was made a committee of one to
replace in the spring the missing
shrubbery on the small Greenwood
Square. Also to make a list of the
Real Estate now in the care of
the Park Commissioners. Adjourned
to Monday Eve. Jan 24th

L. B. Bidwell
Secty.

1908

378.10

June	Wrote on Holcott Sgt Camp Meigs	24.50	
July 20	J L George Insurance for Camp Meigs	4-	
Sept 21	Frank Johns setting plant, Camp Meigs	19-	
Nov. 13	Arthur White repairing fence	2-	
Sept. 1, 09	Calvin Hall manure Camp Meigs + Holcott sq.	25-	
May 20	" " " "	3.50	
Oct 5 "	A Haight ^{may + June 08} Laid on small squares	6.00	84.00
Aug 31. 09	Bal by Treasurer		\$ 294.10
Apr. 7. 09	App. for Parks	2.50-	
			5144.10

1900

June 1	Region Trager setting plants, Hayport	184.50.	
" 1	Frank D. Lenoir " "	6-	
July 20	Frank L George Camp Meigs grass	6-	
May 15	Frank Johns Work on Holcott Sq. Camp Meigs	14-	
June 1	" " " " 3 days	6-	
Aug 20	Settlement Camp Meigs	24-	
Sept 20	Settlement Camp Meigs 11- 2- 4- 3- 11-		
July 20	Recd. bill for Park Comm.	0.85	
" 21	A Haight Cutting grass July 14 Oct 08	9.70	
" 21	" " phosphate 2.85		
Oct 19/0	Wrote on for Camp Meigs	15-	20.85
	Bal		281.20

261.20

Oct 5.06	App. C H Batchelder bill for halibut Camp Meigs	2.29
" " "	" J H Boynton " " prittsigan	<u>5.00</u>
Dec. 7.07	Chas McDonald Carting Crushed Stone Camp Meigs	5.00
" " "	Frank Kunkel Grows for Signs " "	5.00
" " "	G. W. Morse & Son for " " "	5.50
" 13 "	Peter V. Flanagan Refuse for Hotel 29	5.00
Jan 22.08	Calib Hall Manure for small power ^{9.25} ¹⁰ Camp Meigs	19.39.50

Apr. 1911	Bal brot up	261.20
" "	Appropriation	<u>300.00</u> 561.20
May 10	J H W Barrett Green manure	39.00
Oct 21	" " " " "	2.00
Nov. 10	Curran for the house 253 1/2 ft. 172.18	
" 30	H. Harrington Knight Co. 250 ft. #10 Waterproof canvas cotton rope	4.00
Dec 1	Concreting around flag pole camp Meigs	14.00
" 15	For flag pole 28.50	16.00
" 25	For flag pole 28.50	16.00
" 25	Calib Hall manure Green manure	6.00
1911 Aug 10	G W Morse & Son painting flag pole	2.70
" " 1	John A. Hsieh painting ceiling grass	13.75
		19.25

1906

Bill's expenses for Sydney road work

July 5	189.95 + 47 ⁱⁿ	July 12	46.60 ^v	283.55 ^v
" 19	40.63 ^v	July 26	37.50 ^v	165.88 ^v
Mar. 10	54.50 ^v	Mar 17	43 ⁱⁿ	119.25 ^v
" 26	22.50 ^v + 2.50 ^v	Mar 31	9.55 ^v	68.80 ^v
Apr 7	56 ^v	Apr 16	6.46 ^v	121.21 ^v
" 11	3.70 ^v	Apr 22	5.87 ^v	117.21 ^v
" 22	8.16 ^v	Apr 28	7.20 ^v	17.23 ^v
May 10	52.37 ^v	May 17	1.75 ^v	106.70 ^v
" "	1.06 ^v	May 24	12.81 ^v	138.51 ^v
" "	78 ⁱⁿ	May 31	4.50 ^v	141.51 ^v
" "	4.50 ^v	June 7	3.40 ^v	77.00 ^v
" "	4.8 ⁱⁿ	June 14	4.0 ^v	182 ^v
" "	4.8 ⁱⁿ	June 21	4.5 ^v	172 ^v
" "	2.25 + 1.85 ^v	June 28	2.90 ^v	177.09 ^v
" "	4.8 ⁱⁿ	July 5	4.8 ⁱⁿ	101.12 ^v
Sept 1	48 ⁱⁿ	Sept 8	48 ⁱⁿ	222 ^v
" 15	48 ⁱⁿ	Sept 22	48 ⁱⁿ	86.28 ^v
" 18	28.5 ^v	Sept 29	37.5 ^v	124.00 ^v
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Oct 6	35.55 ^v	71.70 ^v
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Oct 13	52.50 ^v	152.20 ^v
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Oct 20	12.28 ^v	2700.52 ^v
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Oct 27	11.95 ^v	
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Nov 3	40.50 ^v	
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Nov 10	15.34 ^v	
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Nov 17	7.50 ^v	
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Nov 24	70.50 ^v	
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Nov 31		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Dec 8		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Dec 15		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Dec 22		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Dec 29		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jan 5		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jan 12		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jan 19		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jan 26		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Feb 2		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Feb 9		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Feb 16		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Feb 23		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Feb 30		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Mar 7		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Mar 14		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Mar 21		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Mar 28		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Apr 4		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Apr 11		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Apr 18		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Apr 25		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	May 2		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	May 9		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	May 16		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	May 23		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	May 30		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jun 6		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jun 13		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jun 20		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jun 27		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jul 4		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jul 11		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jul 18		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jul 25		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Aug 1		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Aug 8		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Aug 15		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Aug 22		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Aug 29		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Sep 5		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Sep 12		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Sep 19		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Sep 26		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Oct 3		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Oct 10		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Oct 17		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Oct 24		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Oct 31		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Nov 7		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Nov 14		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Nov 21		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Nov 28		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Dec 5		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Dec 12		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Dec 19		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Dec 26		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jan 2		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jan 9		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jan 16		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jan 23		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Jan 30		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Feb 6		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Feb 13		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Feb 20		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Feb 27		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Mar 6		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Mar 13		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Mar 20		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Mar 27		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Apr 3		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Apr 10		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Apr 17		
" 18	38 ⁱⁿ	Apr 24		
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Dec. 1		78 ^L	Sandwiches DEC 16.	78 ^L	237.46	
" 22		78 ^L	Sandwiches	78 ^L	63 ^L	222.05
				Jan 5. 07		3219.77
			2.45	Jan 12. time	63 ^L	128.45
				Jan 19.	63 ^L	1300
" 26						1091.15

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Month	Day	Event	Amount	Balance
Apr. 10	10	Payroll	1.00	193.75
"	23	" March 2 63 - May 2 Sundries	6.15	132.15
"	27	" March 23. 63 - May 30	270	
"	6	" May 12 to Apr 4 Sundries Apr 4 Budget same	19.35 116.42 114.48	336.25
"	13	" Apr 20 Time 87 - Apr 27 Time 87 - May 2	87 87 327	
"	3	" Office rent 23-81 Time 79 - May 11	23.81 79 24.50	147.31
"	25	" June 1 Time 53 - June 1 Sundries 84 - June 8	53 84 1478	263.78
"	15	" June 22 82 - June 29 Time 80 - June 29 Sundries 82	82 80 1900	245.05
"	1	" July 6 Time 34 - July 6 Time 90 - July 6 Time 7.50 7.50	34 90 7.50 7.50	129
"	12	" July 15 Note Book Travel July 20 Time 84 - July 20 Knife holder 15	84 15 84 15	169.15
"	27	" Office 11 arrived Aug 3 Time 84 - Aug 10 Time 72	84 72 247.00	
"	10	" Paul Travel Aug 17 Time 15 - Aug 24 Time 10 67 72	15 10 67 72	134.25
"	26	" Travel Aug 30 10 - Aug 31 Time 72 - Aug 31 Office 7	10 72 7 79.90	79.90
"	7	" Busches 24 Time 60 - Sept 14 Time 60 - Sept 21 Time 63	24 60 60 63	183.24
"	28	" Time 63 - Oct 1. 63 - Office 7 - Oct 5 Time 53.00	63 7 53.00 123.00	123.00
"	12	" Time 33 - Oct 19 Time 33 - Oct 26 Time 33	33 33 33 99.00	99.00
"	26	" Payroll 132 - Sundries 132 - July 11 2.09	132 132 2.09 15.09	15.09
				3135.27

1908

Not up

1775.77

Aug 2	44	12	Erny Morse & Co. Crook	1.50	97.50
Sept 5	33	33	18	45.50	147.50
Oct 1	44	48	Oct 17-48	24.40	141.29
" 31	45	40.25	5	1.40	96.65
Nov 3	5.50	48	33	48	134.50
" 28	48	45.50	2.70	48	144.20
Dec 19	48	45	32	4	134.00
Jan 9	64	48	48	2.10	172.75
" 30	48			10.65	48.00

From Feb. 1. 08 to Feb. 1. 09 28 92.16

App that 2892.17

Bal 00.01

1910

Jan'y 24. Met at Union Block. All present

Agreed and voted to ask for \$6000
at the Apr. App meeting to carry on the
Leprosy moth work the coming year.
Passed in to the Select men a list of
the private owners and amounts to be
collected for moth work on private grounds
for year ending Jan'y 31. 1909 Total 228.85

Owners not known 71.23

Owners known 157.62

To the Board of Park Commissioners,

Gentlemen:

I present herewith my annual report on the Gypsy Moth Suppression Work in this town for the year ending January 31, 1910. The town could not be thoroughly scouted before the egg-hatching season last spring, owing to lack of funds, so that it was impossible to ascertain its true condition. Consequently a number of badly infested places showed up later, and there was some stripping, despite the spraying and burlapping.

But little work could be done on private property with the limited means at hand during the burlap season. Several thousand gypsy moth egg-clusters were destroyed along the edges of Grews Woods on Austin and West streets about May 1st. Some brush clearing and removal of dead-wood was done here in a strip fifty to one hundred feet wide on each side of the roads bordering the woodland. This strip was later sprayed with arsenate of lead, and the trees there^ein burlapped and attended. 1739 trees were burlapped here, and 107,756 larvae and pupae destroyed under the burlaps between June 19th and August 3rd.

Other spraying was done in various sections of the town, where the conditions seemed to demand it on private property

4315 town trees were burlapped and 446 on other private property, aside from those in the woods, and about 6000 larvae (caterpillars) were destroyed daily under these burlaps during the months of July and August. About eight acres of woodland were sprayed, and about one hundred street trees, exclusive of the street elm trees all of which were sprayed for the elm-tree beetle, (in the Tree Warden dept.) and which materially assisted in controlling the moths.

The number of trees stripped covered about four acres of land , approximately two of which was in the interior of Grews Woods. The remaining two acres were made up of scattered sections on vacant land in the Hazelwood and Clarendon Hills districts, and of orchard trees in Readville, Fairmount, Rugby , and previous named sections. Some of the orchard stripping was from the Brown-Tail moth. No section of the town was found free from the moths during the larval season, although it may still be said that the worst infestation is in the northerly and easterly sections

Within the fiscal year just closed we have done suppression work on 439 estates, and the amount of the charges on same is \$ 421.19. This amount will be turned over to the Tax Collector for collection as soon as the exact locations and lot numbers of the property can be determined.

The work of scouting and destroying egg-clusters was started this fall about October first, and thus far about one-third of the private property and most of the street trees have been gone over. We have ~~th~~ destroyed within this section 22,641 gypsy moth egg-clusters and about 2000 brown-tail webs.

This infestation is principally in the Hazelwood and Clarendon Hills sections. Considerable brush cutting and tinning is needed in these sections to control the pests, and if it is not done there will probably be some stripping here.

It has been everywhere apparent upon the slightest investigation that the moths have shown a marked increase throughout the town, very little attempt having been made by property owners to keep them in check. It is also apparent that with the present available funds it will be impossible to cover the town in the egg-destroying work this winter.

The matter of the coming year's work has been carefully considered with a view of holding the moths in control, which has not been done here for the past two years. This method is believed to be the most economical course for the town to pursue and is strongly urged by the State Forester. The work has been planned out, week by week through the year, and a detailed estimate with specific reasons for asking for the amount named has been submitted to the Advisory Board Sub-committee, with whom every possible effort has been made to explain the details of the work and to show the infested territory. The amount recommended, after going over the matter in detail with the State Agent in charge of this section, and in conference with Assistant forester Worthley from the State Office, is \$ 6000.00. As the detailed estimate for this amount has previously been submitted to your board, and is now under the consideration of the Advisory Board, there is no need to mention it further here.

I have also been considering the matter of alliance of the
Warden department with this work, and the appointment of a " Town
Forester" to have complete charge of all work of this nature.
Believing such a combination, if properly made, would be for the
town's best interests, I have recommended it in my Tree Warden
report, and also submitted a detailed summary of the same to the
Advisory Board Sub-committee.

The expenses of this department for the fiscal year have
been as follows:

Salary of superintendent -----	\$ 936.00
Labor hire -----	1463.00
Horse hire -----	219.00
Cobb spraying machine -----	90.00
500 pounds Arsenate of Lead -----	37.50
Sending out notices -----	75.00
Burlap -----	39.20
Creosote -----	9.16
Tools and other supplies -----	93.97

Total expenses	\$ 2962.83
Assessments to property owners	421.19
Net expense to town -----	\$ 2541.64

year 3000.00
expense - 2962.83
1,1910, 37.17
to the general fund.

Of the private charges (\$ 421.19), \$ 163.37 is for work
done on the Grews Woods property.

The purchase of a power spraying machine in the Tree
Warden department will aid materially in the spraying operations
in this work.

Respectfully Submitted,
Harry C. King
Local Superintendent

1911
DUPLICATE

GYPSY MOTH REPORT.

To the Board of Park Commissioners:

Gentlemen:

The following is my report on the Gypsy and Brown-tail Moth suppression work in this town for the year ending January 31, 1911.

From January 31, 1910 to May first the scouting work and destroying of egg-clusters and nests was carried on in the Readville, Fairmount, Hazelwood, Mattapan, and parts of the Clarendon Hills and Sunnyside sections, thus completing as far as conditions would permit the work begun early in the winter. Most of the yards were found infested with both the Gypsy and Brown-tail moths, and about eight hundred estates were cleared preparatory to tanglefooting, hurlapping and spraying. The town property was also gone over in this work. About 25,000 Brown-tail nests were cut off and burned in this campaign, and many thousands of Gypsy moth egg-clusters were creosoted.

It was plainly evident that if a thorough clearing out of brush around infested places, with the incidental work of removing worthless trees and cementing and tinning tree cavities, was not attended to there would be considerable stripping of the trees by the moths later.

This important work, however, could not be taken up by the town forces owing to the lack of necessary funds, and as the property owners in most instances neglected to do it, the moths soon began to get in their work of defoliation.

A systematic clearing out of brush, etc., as outlined above, was carried on along Hyde Park Avenue from the Boston line to Cleary Sq., on both sides of the street, and also on parts of West River Street, and along the main roads of Fairview Cemetery. About 2000 trees were tanglefooted and afterward sprayed in these sections, and the results were very satisfactory indeed where the work was carried out as outlined.

Gypsy Moth report -- 2.

The Purrington power sprayer which was purchased in the Tree Warden department last year was used with marked success, and saved a great deal of defoliation. A strip of trees about 100 feet in width was sprayed along Grews Woods on Austin and West Streets, but no other attempt was made to hold the moths in check here, and about ten acres of trees were defoliated near the edges and in the interior of these woods.

As the season advanced many complaints were constantly being received about orchard trees being stripped by the moths, and as far as possible these places were attended to. Very little money was available for this work, however, and only the worst places could be taken care of. About seventy-five orchard trees were stripped clean in the latter part of June, -- mostly by the Brown-tails. There was also considerable stripping by the Gypsies on private property in the Readville, Sunnyside, Clarendon Hills, Hazelwood, and Mattapan sections.

Practically no scouting and clearing work has been carried on this winter, and the town as a whole is getting badly infested throughout, owing to the great amount of work which has had to be left undone each season from the appropriations being cut down to about one-half the amount outlined for the necessary work and called for by the state officials. This matter, however, has been continually called to the attention of the town and the Advisory Board, as my previous reports will show, and I feel in no way responsible for it. The ^{present} condition is simply the natural result which has invariably followed wherever these moths have been allowed to pursue their ravages unchecked. It has been repeated many times in Massachusetts cities and towns during the past forty years while the moths have been in evidence.

This work has long since passed the experimental stage, and definite results may always be looked for when certain courses are pursued. It is absolutely certain that if more drastic measures are not soon taken in this town to suppress these pests, much valuable property will be destroyed, and the real estate values be lessened thereby. Whether the town appropriates the money or the property owners attend to their own work is for the citizens to say, but the results, if the work is neglected, are bound to be the same as those of every city and town in Massachusetts where these moths have been allowed to run rampant. It is far better and more economical to keep these pests in check from the start (and they have certainly not been kept in check here for three years past) than to allow them to ravage property as they have done in Malden, Everett, Saugus, and Arlington, where in many instances property owners have moved from town and have been unable to dispose of their property at a fair value on this account; or to leave them to destroy the woodland as they have done in Pine Banks Park, Malden; or in Lynn Woods, where 500 acres of woodland have been destroyed by these moths in one section.

As I am leaving this work, I feel that I would not be doing my duty if I did not bring this matter squarely before the people in this manner, and emphasise the true condition of affairs and the ~~res~~ results which are inevitable if the present half-hearted policy in this work is longer continued.

I feel that we have done everything possible with the means at our disposal, and the work throughout has been carefully inspected, outlined, and approved by the state authorities having it in charge.

No immediate relief may be looked for from the imported parasites of these moths. They are doing good work, - better in many instances

than was expected, but to firmly establish the habitat of such insects in a new territory, so that they will hold their own against new enemies and new climatic conditions, and pursue their work as they do in their native environments, is essentially a work of years of patient study; careful experimentation; and the best possible management by experts in this special line of work. All this is being done, and being done well; but it has been shown that it is not a wise policy to sit down and wait for the results of such things; the ultimate outcome of which is at best uncertain.

The Wilt Disease was quite prevalent among the Gypsy Moth caterpillars in Grew's Woods and in some other sections this past summer; and killed off thousands of the larvae; but not to such an extent as to render unnecessary further suppression work. Co-operating with the state department, I have had a colony of callosoma beetles (one of the Gypsy Moth parasites) ~~introduced~~ planted in Grew's Woods, with the hope of its becoming established there and spreading to other localities. This is a very effective parasite, being an enemy of the moth in both the larval and pupal stages.

An attempt was also made to establish the Fungus disease among the Brown- tail moths here. This is a disease which is doing good work among the larvae of these moths, destroying thousands of them where conditions are right for its growth. At the time for planting, however, no place with favorable conditions for the spread of the disease could be found where the chances for its obtaining a foot-hold were particularly good, and this idea was therefor not carried out.

No satisfactory place has yet been provided for the housing of the equipment belonging to this department; the barn which we have hired for this purpose still serving to hold part of it, though long since

inadequate.

The required notices regarding the work on private property were sent to all property owners the first of November last, but as no money was forthcoming to do the winter's work on these places it has not been done.

As was mentioned last year in both my Gypsy Moth and Tree Warden reports, I believe the town would be benefitted by a combination of these two departments and the establishing of the office of Town Forester to take charge of, and be held responsible for, all public tree work, and also the work on private places in so far as the law provides and permits.

With the ^{termination} ~~closing~~ of this report my ^{six years'} work in this department is brought to a close, as the following letter with the reasons therefor will indicate:

Hyde Park, Mass.

Dec. I, 1911.

" Board of Selectmen

Hyde Park, Mass.

Gentlemen:

I present herewith my resignation of the office of Local Superintendent of Gypsy Moth Work in this town: the same to take effect immediately.

I do not consider that the town has backed me in the work of fighting the moth pest here, nor that proper methods are being used; sufficientⁿ to keep the pests in substantial control; I cannot, therefor, in justice to myself, remain longer connected with the work in pursuing this kind of a policy.

A detailed report of the work of the fiscal year to date will be

rendered the Park Commissioners, who have the oversight of the matter, and also the State Forester, having direct charge of the work as a whole.

The property belonging to this department is ready at any time to be turned over to my successor, or to be disposed of in such other manner as your board may request.

Respectfully yours,

(signed) H. G. Higbee.

Local Superintendent

Gypsy Moth Work. "

As I had received my last appointment from the Selectmen, the above letter was addressed to them instead of to your Board.

The equipment has now been turned over to Mr. Eugene Corbett, who has been appointed my successor.

The necessary reports of the work, with itemized expense accounts have been rendered the State Office, and with the above explanations as representing my views on the present status of this work, I have no recommendations to make.

I wish to thank the Board of Park Commissioners for their kindly interest and co-operation in this work while it has been under my charge.

I conclude the report with a summary of expenses for the fiscal year just closed.

Appropriation for year -----	\$ 3000.00
Paid out, to Jan. 31, 1911, -----	<u>2999.04</u>
Balance Jan. 31, to revert to general fund, --	\$.96

There was also, however, \$ 106.65 due for outstanding bills at the time ~~of~~ the work was left off, but this amount could not be paid

until February 1st., when the sum of \$ 500.00 became automatically available from the following year's appropriation. This amount (\$ 106.65) added to the above makes a total expenditure of \$ 3105.69 for the work during the past year in this department.

This amount was divided as follows:

Salary of superintendent -----	\$ 756.00
Labor hire -----	1331.00
Team hire -----	257.00
Barn rent -----	24.00
1 1/2 tons arsenate of lead, and freight,	228.14
500 pounds tree tanglefoot -----	93.75
Hose and fittings for power sprayer -----	185.13
Creosote and coal tar -----	18.50
Envelopes, printing, stationery & postage	88.00
Larvae and creosote brushes -----	16.00
Tools and other supplies -----	108.08

Total cost to town, \$ 3105.69

The private charge accounts, numbering about 800, are turned over to Mr. Corbett, as the owners of the various properties must be determined before collection can be made by the Tax Collector.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry G. Higbee,

Local Superintendent Gypsy Moth Work, resigned.



The history of the United States is a story of a people who have grown from a small colony of English settlers to a great nation. The story begins in 1492 when Christopher Columbus discovered the New World. The first English settlers came to the United States in 1607. They were the first of many waves of immigrants who came to the United States in search of a better life. The United States has a long and rich history. It is a story of a people who have overcome many challenges and have built a great nation.

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Sp. bee	15- per week
in winter	15-
young	15-
nest on	15-
cherry	12-

